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TODAY: LEISURE

Saddam Accuses West Of Plot to Unseat Him

Iraqi Leader Denies Rumors of Sending Money to Secret Bank Accounts Abroad

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

BAGHDAD — In an unusual speech that dealt with issues largely considered taboo here, President Saddam Hussein accused his Western adversaries on Thursday of seeking to tarnish his reputation and thereby weaken his leadership after failing in efforts to depose him.

Addressing the nation on the anniversary of the end of the 1980-88 Iran-Iraq conflict, Mr. Saddam denied that he or family members had stashed money in foreign bank accounts.

And he defended costly construction projects that he ordered in recent years, despite widespread social and economic hardships caused by a stifling six-year-old trade embargo.

"Let me correct you," Mr. Saddam told his opponents. "There aren't only 14 new palaces. There are many more on all of Iraq's territory."

But, he added, "these are not Saddam's palaces. They are the people's palaces and belong to the entire nation."

The Iraqi leader made no mention of his country's oil-for-food deal with the United Nations, whose implementation the United States approved on Wednesday.

Under the plan, Iraq will be allowed to sell $2 billion in oil over six months to buy food and other humanitarian supplies to mitigate the effects of sanctions.

Before the oil can begin to flow, the United Nations must appoint an overseer to approve individual oil contracts and send monitors to Iraq to check that the scheme works properly. The UN Sanctions Committee met late Thursday and approved the final details of the plan.

Criticism of President Saddam and his family is rarely heard in Iraq. But Iraqi opposition groups in exile have often charged that he has transferred large amounts of money to secret bank accounts in Switzerland, and appointed his half-brother, Barzan Takriti, as the ambassador to Geneva to manage the funds. The same allegations have been made by Western officials.

"This is a defamation campaign by the evil forces," Mr. Saddam said. "We said before, whoever finds money that belongs to Saddam Hussein abroad let him keep it and give us only 5 percent to spend on the people of Iraq."

The opposition also has accused Mr. Saddam of wasting increasingly scarce public funds on himself and his family.

U.S. and other Western officials, citing satellite photographs, say Mr. Saddam has spent millions on new palaces at a time the money could have been used to buy food and medicine for the 20 million people in Iraq.

The government has spared no effort to highlight the human suffering in Iraq in a campaign to end United Nations sanctions that have been in place since Iraq's 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

Mr. Saddam said one of the reasons for the new palaces was to "prevent the Americans from launching a single, surprise missile or air strike to take out the leadership."

Another aim, he said, was to improve

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Javier Bolver/The Associated Press

Flash Floods Kill Scores at Campsite in Pyrenees

Wrecked bicycles and a car lying in the mud Thursday outside Biescas, Spain, near the French border. Torrential rains touched off mud slides that killed at least 72 people and injured more than 180. About 100 people were missing. The waters uprooted trees, tore boulders loose and left a tangle of cars and caravans in their wake. "A dreadful sight," said Jose Maria Aznar, the Spanish prime minister, who inspected the area. Earlier article, Page 5.

Mission Achieved In Grozny, Rebel Says

Assault Was Meant To Embarrass Yeltsin On Eve of Inaugural

By Alessandra Stanley
New York Times Service

MOSCOW — As Russian troops continued a bloody three-day battle to regain control of the secessionist capital of Grozny on Thursday, a Chechen rebel leader stated in Friday's edition of Izvestia that the rebel forces had accomplished their mission and would soon withdraw.

The ferocious assault that left several hundred dead was a brazen show of force designed to cast a pall over Moscow on the eve of President Boris Yeltsin's inauguration on Friday. Rebels who invaded Grozny on Tuesday said they did so to underscore the collapse of peace initiatives promised by Mr. Yeltsin during his re-election campaign.

The prime minister, Viktor Chernomyrdin, who has led shortlived peace negotiations in the past, tried to dampen fears that the Chechen war is escalating again. "The fighters will get a response, but this will not be a full-scale military action," Mr. Chernomyrdin assured a group of parliamentary deputies Thursday. "We cannot allow the worsening situation to take the Afghan path."

Mr. Chernomyrdin also complained about Russian troops' 36- hour delay in responding to the rebel assault and demanded an investigation.

More than 30,000 people have died since Russian troops invaded the secessionist republic at the end of 1994, and the war has turned into Moscow's worst military quagmire since defeated Soviet troops withdrew from Afghanistan in 1989. Mr. Yeltsin pledged to find a peaceful solution to the conflict during his re-election campaign, but fighting has instead intensified since his victory.

As reports of gunfire and bloodshed filled Russian newspapers and televi-

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Republican Platform Tilts to the Right

Its Provisions Appear Closer to Buchanan's Ideas Than to Dole's

By Thomas B. Edsall
Washington Post Service

SAN DIEGO — The Republican platform committee has approved a statement of party principles closer in tone and emphasis to the nationalism and domestic conservatism of Patrick J. Buchanan than to the party's presumptive nominee Bob Dole.

Public attention has focused on abortion, an issue on which Mr. Buchanan and Christian conservatives forced Mr. Dole to abandon a proposed statement of "tolerance" for those who disagreed with the party's anti-abortion stance.

But the victory of conservative forces in writing the party platform was virtually across the board.

It encompassed immigration, foreign policy, quotas and a host of other issues.

"This is very Buchanan," said Angela (Bay) Buchanan, the candidate's sister and campaign chairman. "We could not be more pleased. This is much more of a populist, conservative Buchananesque platform than we ever dreamed, to be honest."

She said it was likely the conservative agreement on the platform would open the way for Mr. Buchanan, who had a strong showing in some Republican primaries, to endorse Mr. Dole, something he has resisted.

There are competing forces at work as the platform committee completes its work and Mr. Dole prepares for the convention that will nominate him for the presidency. Mr. Buchanan is eager to have his positions recognized as official party doctrine. Mr. Dole and his aides want the convention to be seen as more moderate and open than the party's 1992 gathering in Houston.

But much more damaging than a too-conservative platform, Mr. Dole advisers believe, is the possibility of a fight on the convention floor, especially on the issue of abortion.

That was avoided Wednesday when abortion rights activists accepted a "compromise" to list their rejected amendments in an appendix to the platform. Everyone claimed to be happy with that.

"I think an appendix is O.K. as long as the pro-choice position is set out in

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Behind China's Anger: Fear of Hostile Alliance

Warning Over Visa to Taiwanese Reflects Unease

By Michael Richardson
International Herald Tribune

SINGAPORE — Contributing to Chinese anger at the U.S. decision to issue a transit visa to the vice president of Taiwan is Beijing's increasing suspicion that Washington is strengthening its network of alliances in the region to contain growing Chinese power.

The Foreign Ministry warned Thursday of "new harm" to Beijing's still bruised relations with Washington from the U.S. agreement to allow Vice President Lien Chan a stopover next week for a "private" visit on his way to a presidential inauguration ceremony in the Dominican Republic.

Significantly, the ministry also signaled another diplomatic dispute in the making, saying that it was "unacceptable" for an Australian minister to make a planned "unofficial" visit to Taiwan, which Beijing regards as a rebel province.

Analysts said Thursday that China was linking its criticism of U.S. and Australian moves to reflect wider strategic concerns.

In an editorial Tuesday, the People's Daily said that the recent upgrading of U.S. security pacts with Australia and Japan was a signal that Washington was continuing a Cold War policy aimed at containing China.

Referring to remarks by senior U.S. officials describing Japan as the "northern anchor" and Australia as the "southern anchor" of Washington's network of treaty alliances in the Asia-Pacific region, the organ of the Chinese Communist Party said it showed that the United States was "really thinking about using these two 'anchors' as the claws of a crab" to entrap China in a pincer movement.

The aim is to expand the U.S. military reach and to weaken China, the People's Daily said.

Both Washington and Canberra deny that they are backing away from their "one-China" policy, which recognizes Taiwan as part of China.

But General Zhang Wannian, one of the four vice-chairmen of China's Cen-

NEWS ANALYSIS

tral Military Commission, said last week in an article in another Communist Party publication that "Western powers are not willing to see the rise of a strong China and are pushing forward with an invasion to 'Westernize' and 'split' socialist China."

At a high-level meeting in Sydney last month, Australia and the United States agreed to strengthen their alliance by greatly expanding their joint training and intelligence-gathering in the region.

The two countries issued a security

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These Marketing Consultants Get Paid in Cookies

U.S. Companies Even Search Their Closets for Latest Trend

By Margaret Isa
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Meet Leah Mosner, a consultant for Microsoft Corp.

When the company introduced its Magic School Bus software series two years ago, it flew her across the country to a party in Washington, where she demonstrated the program while adroitly fielding questions from the press.

From time to time, Miss Mosner, who works out of her home in Bellevue, Washington, meets with Microsoft executives at their headquarters in nearby Redmond to discuss products and market trends.

And every day, Miss Mosner said in a recent 8 A.M. interview squeezed into her schedule before a river-rafting trip, she is expected to check out a children's on-line site that Microsoft is developing and to send in a report by e-mail.

She is well compensated for all this — in software games and gift certificates. Once, she said excitedly, she even got a "a really cool backpack."

You see, Miss Mosner is 12 years old.

Miss Mosner — let's get in line with the rest of the business world and call her Leah — is one of a small but growing army of child consultants working for some of the biggest companies in the country.

The companies' quarry is obvious: the tremendous purchasing power of youth. Children aged 12 to 19 spent $109 billion last year, up 7 percent from 1994, according to Teenage Research Unlimited, a marketing group based in Northbrook, Illinois. The teenage population, and its buying power, is expected to increase until at least 2010, as young children of baby boomers grow up. By then, there could be as many as 34.9 million teenagers, compared with 29.7 million now.

With so many dollars up for grabs, companies are eagerly turning to their precocious consultants for help in moving the merchandise.

The consultants earn their keep by providing information about themselves, their peers and what they love and detest in everything from clothes and jewelry to software and music.

"For years, there was a lot of resistance to doing work with kids because they thought kids wouldn't be able to provide that information," said Tom McGee, senior researcher at Doyle Research Associates Inc. in Chicago, which specializes in the youth market. "The kids proved them wrong."

What the young people do is not the usual kind of child labor.

Joshua Koplewicz of Manhattan, 13, has been working with Levi Strauss & Co. since he was a fifth grader. He tells Levi Strauss executives what he thinks about clothes already in stores or in the

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AGENDA

Commuter Train Crashes in U.K.

LONDON (Combined Dispatches) — A rush-hour commuter train collided with an empty train on the northern outskirts of London Thursday evening, killing at least one passenger and injuring many others.

Rescue officials said 40 people remained trapped in the wreckage hours after the accident, while 60 others had been taken to local hospitals.

A police spokesman said there were about 100 "walking wounded" near the accident site at Watford Junction in Hertfordshire, 20 miles (32 kilometers) north of the city. *(AP, Reuters)*

French Labor Warning

Union leaders on Thursday warned President Jacques Chirac of France that austerity measures proposed by his conservative government would cause a wave of labor unrest when the summer vacation season ends next month. (Page 5)

PAGE TWO
Will Vengeance Ease the Pain?

THE AMERICAS Page 3.
Dole Stays Silent on Running Mate

ASIA Page 4.
Indonesia Tightens Leash on Leftists

Chan Yeon Kang/Agence France-Presse

DRESSED FOR PROTEST — Relatives of South Korean political prisoners, dressed in prison garb and tied with ropes, sitting on a Seoul street Thursday to demand the release of hundreds of prisoners.

Dow Jones	Trib Index
Down 5.18	Up 0.12%
5713.49	136.75

The Dollar New York,	Thurs. close	previous close
DM	1.4845	1.4855
Pound	1.5495	1.5429
Yen	108.275	107.945
FF	5.0625	5.0635

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Newsstand Prices

Andorra	10.00 FF	Lebanon	LL 3,000
Antilles	12.50 FF	Morocco	16 Dh
Cameroon	1,600 CFA	Qatar	10.00 Riels
Egypt	£E 5	Réunion	12.50 FF
France	10.00 FF	Saudi Arabia	10.00 R.
Gabon	1100 CFA	Senegal	1,100 CFA
Greece	350 Dr.	Spain	225 PTAS
Italy	2,800 Lire	Tunisia	1,250 Din
Ivory Coast	1,250 CFA	U.A.E.	10.00 Dirh
Jordan	1,250 JD	U.S. Mil. (Eur.)	$1.20

Officials Suspect UN's Chief Sent Aide for African Support

By Robert Kroon
International Herald Tribune

GENEVA — Did Boutros Boutros Ghali send a human rights official on a two-week African tour to shore up support for his re-election as United Nations secretary-general in December? Some high-ranking U.S. and European officials here say they suspect that was the case.

U.S. officials, who are pressing Mr. Boutros Ghali to step aside at the end of his five-year term, have previously charged that UN resources were improperly used in Mr. Boutros Ghali's campaign for a second term. The secretary-general, a seasoned Egyptian diplomat, vigorously denies that.

The latest suspicion arises from a mission to four African countries from June 26 to July 11. On June 24, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Jose Ayala Lasso, received a message from Mr. Boutros Ghali's cabinet chief in New York, Jean-Claude Aime, instructing the commissioner to send his deputy, Ibrahima Fall, on an unspecified mission to West Africa.

The message, a copy of which the IHT has obtained from a Western, but not American, diplomat, said: "I wish to inform you that the secretary-general would like Mr. Fall to visit Guinea-Bissau, Senegal, Ivory Coast and Gabon, prior to his participation in the forthcoming summit meeting of the Organization for African Unity." The message gave no reasons for the assignment.

Mr. Fall's travel expenses, totaling $8,849, were to be charged to the Human Rights Center in Geneva, not UN headquarters in New York.

On Thursday, in response to questions, Therese Gastaut, director of information at the UN's European office, said that nothing irregular had been involved in Mr. Fall's mission. "On his way to the OAU summit, Mr. Fall was duly authorized to stop over in four African capitals to discuss human rights matters and conflict situations on a ministerial level.

"Summits are short and hectic," she continued, "with limited opportunity for talks."

At UN headquarters in New York, Sylvana Foa, Mr. Boutros Ghali's spokesman, said: "Attaching such innuendoes to a routine mission is a modern form of McCarthyism."

Mr. Ayala Lasso said he had "no comment on the issue."

An aide to Mr. Fall, who is on vacation and could not be reached for comment, said the mission's purpose was to "sensitize" officials in the four countries about an African human rights conference to be held in Angola next year.

A high-ranking European diplomat, who asked not to be named, dismissed

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AT&T The Right Choice

Waiting for an Execution / **Will Vengeance Ease the Pain?**

2 Children Wait to Watch Their Parents' Killer Die

By Lois Romano
Washington Post Service

OKARCHE, Oklahoma — Brooks Douglass speaks with both detachment and vivid detail of the event that has driven his entire adult life.

He has recounted the horror so many times over the last 17 years that he often feels like a mere observer.

"Scruffy drifters. ... Hog-tied us in the living room. ... Kept jiggling his belt as he raped her. ... I knew we were getting ready to be shot. ... Sound of my mother vomiting blood."

Mr. Douglass was 16 when he saw his parents murdered and heard the cries of his 12-year-old sister as she was being raped by two intruders at the Douglass in this town 25 miles (40 kilometers) northwest of Oklahoma City.

One recent scorching summer day, he stopped his car on the isolated dirt road leading to the farmhouse where his family once lived and laughed. He was remembering the seven times he had to testify at trials and hearings, and how his anger and sense of loss only intensified.

He spoke of the relief that he and his sister felt long ago in 1980 when Glen Burton Ake and Steven Keith Hatch were sentenced to death.

And he recalled his rage six years later, when Glen Ake, the trigger man, was resentenced to life in prison.

For Mr. Douglass, now 32 and a conservative Republican state senator, and his sister, Leslie Frizzell, 29, an elementary school teacher, their encounter with the death penalty has been an agonizing odyssey of legalisms, lost hopes and a never-ending search for justice, vengeance and closure.

Now they both believe the end — and perhaps a new beginning — may at last be within reach.

Early Friday, a few minutes after midnight, Steven Hatch is to be executed by lethal injection at Oklahoma State Penitentiary in McAlester, barring Supreme Court action on 11th-hour appeals.

Under a new Oklahoma law, which Mr. Douglass drafted, the brother and sister will be allowed to watch Steven Hatch die.

"No one should have to spend their life dealing with something that happened when they were 16 years old," Mr. Douglass said. "When Steven Hatch is executed, I know the door to that part of my life will be closed."

THE DEATH penalty is one of the most debated social issues of this century. Twenty years after the U.S. Supreme Court reinstated capital punishment, however, the rights of victims — not the convicted — still dominate the debate.

The victims' rights movement helped propel the federal legislation that was enacted this spring — and upheld by a unanimous Supreme Court in June — to restrict federal appeals for death-row inmates.

For the first time, relatives of homicide victims are active participants in the process, pushing for a penalty that many believe will put an end to a tragic ordeal.

Much has changed since the 1980s, when family members of murder victims relied mostly on news reports to learn of an inmate's death-row appeals. When it came time for an execution, protesters and advocates gathered outside the prison. Survivors, if they came at all, waited outside, too.

Today, prisons routinely make accommodations for relatives of murder victims who wish to be at the prison for an execution. And, according to the Death Penalty Information Center in Washington, about 12 states have policies or laws that allow relatives of the victim to view the execution — either in the witness room or by closed-circuit television.

Why do they watch? For many, after waiting 10, 12, sometimes even 17 years, the politics or morality of the execution mean virtually nothing. According to survivors who have gone through the experience, the execution has been the only way they could regain control of their lives.

STILL, THE idea that the killing of one person offers closure to another is unsettling — even to victims' rights advocates. And some of those advocates express concern that a post-execution "euphoria" may lead to an even greater sense of loss, once the tense drama of crime and punishment is over.

Foes of capital punishment are more direct. They contend that families are manipulated by a pro-death penalty system driven by vengeance. Most prisoners sentenced to death in America have not been executed, so most survivors of victims have had only the wait — not the closure.

Since the death penalty was reinstated in 1976 after a four-year hiatus, only 337 of the 5,000 death sentences in America have been carried out. About 3,000 inmates sit in death-row cells across the country.

"Instead of giving the family closure, the death penalty ends up keeping the case alive for years," said Michael Radelet, a University of Florida sociologist who has written four books on the subject. "The families get used and co-opted."

"I don't even know what the term 'closure' means," he added. "Someone kills your child — there is no closure."

But in interviews, 11 relatives of murder victims agreed that executions helped them.

Although 30 states offer the alternative of life sentences without the possibility of parole, most of those interviewed expressed doubt that killers would actually remain behind bars. And even if they did, these relatives said, such a sentence would not afford them the sense of finality they want.

"The death penalty is the ultimate closure," Mr. Douglass said. "It is the ultimate sign that it is over, that there are no more possibilities that my life will be debilitated by reliving the crime, no more possibilities that this man will get out and do to someone else what he did to my family."

Theirs was a typical, even somewhat privileged, middle-class life in a small Oklahoma town of fewer than 1,000 residents.

Richard Douglass, 43, was the pastor of Putnam City Baptist Church and a past president of the Oklahoma Baptist General Convention — one of the state's leading religious posts. Marilyn Douglass, 36, was a doting mother who encouraged her pretty blond daughter to compete on the beauty pageant circuit.

Robert S. Cross/The Washington Post

Stephen Pingry/Tulsa World

Brooks Douglass and his sister, Leslie Frizzell, in front of the Oklahoma house where they were terrorized and shot and their parents killed in 1979. They hope to watch the execution of Steven Hatch, below left. Glen Ake, right, is serving a life sentence.

Daily Oklahoman

Though she was only 12, Leslie Douglass was already Miss Teen Oklahoma 1979 and a veteran of a national pageant in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

At 16, Brooks Douglass was a bright high school senior, having skipped his junior year. He juggled two small businesses along with his studies — putting decorative detail on cars and taking care of dogs.

"We were by any standard normal and happy," he said.

Then came a knock on the door. It was 7:45 P.M. on Monday, Oct. 15, 1979.

"Leslie and I had just gotten home when Ake came to the door," Mr. Douglass recalled. "He said he was looking for someone named Mitchell in the area."

"I offered him use of the phone," he went on. "When he got to the phone in the kitchen, he patted his pants and looked in the pockets and then asked, 'Gee, do you mind if I go out to the car and get the number?' "

He went to the car, then returned to the phone. A minute later, the front door opened.

"I looked up and there was Hatch holding a double-barrel shotgun pointed right at me," Mr. Douglass recalled. "I spun around and Ake had a .357 Magnum in my face. Leslie started crying.

"My mother said, 'Take what you want, just don't hurt us.' I went in the bedroom to get my father. I said, 'Dad, they have guns.' "

Glen Ake, 24 at the time, and Steven Hatch, 26, were on a rampage. Earlier that day, they had quit their jobs at an oil rig and terrorized and robbed a nearby family. By the time they reached Okarche, they were drunk, drugged and out of control. They picked the Douglass home at random.

They herded the family into the living room, where they tied up everyone but Leslie. They forced her to lead them through the house looking for valuables. Along the way, they yanked out every phone.

Glen Ake then took Leslie into a bedroom.

"We could hear Leslie crying and we could hear him jiggling his belt buckle. He just kept jiggling his belt buckle as he raped her," said Douglass. "He wanted us to hear it."

A few minutes later, Leslie said, Steven Hatch also raped her. (He denied this during a clemency hearing two weeks ago.)

She, too, was taken to the living room and bound hand and foot.

"They then sat down and ate the family dinner," Mr. Douglass recalled.

When they had finished, they openly discussed killing the family, Mr. Douglass said. Finally, around 10 P.M., Glen Ake instructed Steven Hatch: "Go outside, turn the car around and listen for the sound."

"I knew," Mr. Douglass said, "that we were getting ready to be shot."

First him, one bullet in the back that collapsed a lung, tore his esophagus and nicked his heart. Then his mother, also once in the back. Next, his father, twice. "I looked up and saw a bullet hit my dad, and I saw blood splatter all over the windows and the curtains," Mr. Douglass recalled.

Leslie was shot twice in the back. And then the sound of an engine starting outside and the men were gone, carrying $43 and a pair of wedding rings.

Mr. Douglass spoke to his parents: "I told them both I loved them," he remembers.

"The only thing I remember my dad saying is, 'Take care of your mother, get your mother untied.' I scooted over to her on my stomach and I untied her with my teeth. I said, 'Mom, you're O.K. Can you untie me?' Her arms just collapsed at her side. I saw the life go out of her.

"I said, 'Dad, mom is dead.' He never said another word."

For many years after the attack, this is what consumed the daughter:

"More than anything else, I have thought about whether I could have gotten away to get help. When I dream, I dream that I got out of the house."

She went on. "I picture myself running across the field to a neighbor's house. Then I dream I made it to the highway, but no one stopped."

Leslie Frizzell is sitting in the living room of her modest home in Yukon, Oklahoma, where she lives with her second husband and two small children from her first marriage. Aside from the six times she testified, she has rarely talked publicly about the crime.

SHE IS ASKED what she expects to feel after Steven Hatch is executed. Her eyes fill with tears and her voice shakes.

"It never gets any better," she said. "Only worse. You're sitting there in your spouse's house for the holidays with all the family and your kids and it's as lonely as it can be.

"You sit there at Christmas time and Thanksgiving, and birthdays pass, and you just wish your kids could meet their grandparents. You end up asking yourself, 'Is my whole life going to be like this? Is my life doomed?' "

She is not sure that she will feel a sense of closure after the execution.

Thursday night, Brooks and Leslie are ready to make the two-hour drive from Oklahoma City to the prison at McAlester.

They intend to go into the witness room, where there is a window overlooking the death chamber.

There, just after midnight, they hope to witness the end of a long and sad story.

TRAVEL UPDATE

Amtrak to End 4 Routes

WASHINGTON (AP) — Tight finances are forcing Amtrak to close down four additional well-known passenger routes. The moves, tentatively slated for Nov. 10, come on the heels of a series of route closures in the last two years as the U.S. passenger rail system struggles to end money-losing operations.

A formal announcement had not been made, but a railroad source said Wednesday the four routes scheduled for closing were: the Desert Wind, running three days a week between Chicago and Los Angeles through Denver, Salt Lake City and Las Vegas; the Boston-to-Albany, New York, section of the Lake Shore Limited that runs between Chicago and Boston; the Pioneer, which operates three times a week between Chicago and Seattle via Denver; the Texas Eagle, which runs three times a week between Chicago and San Antonio, Texas.

Congress has tentatively appropriated $200 million in operating subsidies to Amtrak for the 1997 fiscal year.

Most flights between Venezuela and the United States have been canceled until further notice because of a dispute between the countries that stranded hundreds of passengers on both sides of the Caribbean since Wednesday. *(AP)*

The new Charles de Gaulle bridge in central Paris, intended to streamline traffic, opened Thursday. *(Reuters)*

Pakistan has allowed a private Afghan airline run by the Uzbek leader, General Abdul Rashid Dostam, to operate flights to Peshawar in the northwest. *(AFP)*

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On Flights, Avoid Spirits and Soda

Reuters

LONDON — Airplane passengers on long-haul flights should shun alcohol and carbonated drinks if they want to prevent blood clots in their legs, Dutch doctors said Friday.

In a letter to the Lancet medical journal, Ries Simons and Jan Krol of the Netherlands Aerospace Medical Center said low humidity in airplanes can lead to dehydration.

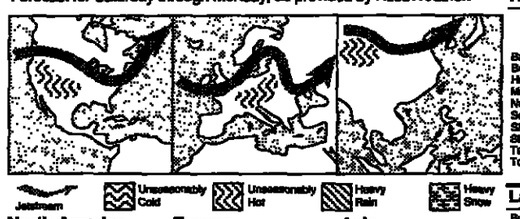
An earlier article in the journal argued that low cabin pressure and dehydration contributed to leg-vein clots, particularly in elderly people sitting in a cramped position for a long period of time.

"Because dehydration is a risk factor in long-haul air travel," the Dutch doctors said, "airlines should instruct passengers to take adequate fluids." But they said alcohol and carbonated beverages should be avoided.

Alcohol causes dehydration, and can make people drowsy, making them less inclined to walk around to help blood circulation. Carbonated drinks can cause wind, which hinders breathing and the supply of oxygen to body tissues.

WEATHER

Forecast for Saturday through Monday, as provided by AccuWeather.



North America
New York City and much of the Northeast will be pleasant with sun and comfortable afternoons Saturday into Monday, but gusty thunderstorms will rumble across the northern Plains. Hot, dry weather with scorching sun will continue from the southern Plains to the Southwest.

Europe
Cloudy and cool in London with periods of rain, while Paris and Amsterdam will be cool with a couple of showers and maybe a thunderstorm. Berlin will be comfortably warm with some sun Saturday and Sunday, then cooler with a thunderstorm Monday. Sunny and warm in Rome and Athens.

Asia
Beijing will be cloudy and cool with a shower or thunderstorm at times, while Korea and most of Japan, including Tokyo and Seoul, will be very warm and humid with just the chance of a thunderstorm. Typhoon Kirk may bring heavy rains to southern Japan or southern Korea by Monday.

Europe

	Today High	Today Low	Tomorrow High	Tomorrow Low
	C/F	C/F	C/F	C/F
Algarve	27/80	17/62 s	28/82	19/66 s
Amsterdam	22/71	16/61 c	29/84	18/64 pc
Ankara	29/82	12/53 pc	29/82	9/48 pc
Athens	32/89	24/75 s	32/89	22/71 s
Barcelona	27/77	18/64 s	28/79	19/66 s
Belgrade	29/84	19/61 c	28/82	13/55 s
Berlin	26/79	18/61 c	27/80	16/61 pc
Brussels	24/75	16/61 pc	29/84	17/62 pc
Budapest	27/80	14/57 pc	27/80	14/57 pc
Copenhagen	23/73	14/57 c	24/75	14/57 c
Costa Del Sol	29/84	19/66 s	30/86	21/70 pc
Dublin	18/64	13/55 r	17/62	12/53 r
Edinburgh	17/62	13/55 sh	18/64	13/55 r
Florence	31/88	17/62 pc	29/84	15/61 pc
Frankfurt	29/79	14/57 c	27/80	14/57 pc
Geneva	28/82	15/59 pc	28/82	16/61 pc
Helsinki	22/71	12/53 pc	24/75	13/55 s
Istanbul	30/86	19/66 s	27/80	17/62 pc
Las Palmas	24/75	18/64 s	23/73	18/64 s
Lisbon	24/75	15/59 s	25/77	17/62 s
London	23/73	16/61 c	24/75	16/61 c
Madrid	33/91	15/59 s	35/95	17/62 pc
Mallorca	24/75	19/66 s	24/75	21/70 s
Milan	29/84	18/64 pc	28/82	16/64 t
Moscow	19/66	9/48 pc	20/68	8/46 pc
Munich	29/73	12/53 pc	28/79	14/57 s
Nice	27/80	20/68 pc	27/80	21/70 pc
Oslo	21/70	14/57 t	21/70	13/55 r
Paris	27/80	16/61 s	28/82	16/61 c
Prague	27/80	13/55 pc	27/80	13/55 pc
Reykjavik	18/61	12/53 r	16/61	11/52 c
Rome	29/84	19/66 pc	29/84	18/64 pc
St. Petersburg	23/73	14/57 pc	24/75	14/57 s
Stockholm	21/70	12/53 pc	22/71	13/55 s
Strasbourg	29/84	16/61 s	32/89	18/64 s
Tallinn	21/70	12/53 pc	24/75	14/57 s
Venice	28/82	17/62 c	29/79	17/62 pc
Vienna	25/77	15/59 t	27/80	15/59 pc
Warsaw	24/75	11/52 s	25/77	12/53 s
Zurich	29/79	15/59 s	28/82	17/62 pc

Oceania

Auckland	13/55	11/52 r	14/57	9/48 r
Sydney	14/57	4/39 s	15/59	8/46 pc

Middle East

	Today High	Today Low	Tomorrow High	Tomorrow Low
	C/F	C/F	C/F	C/F
Abu Dhabi	38/102	28/82 s	40/104	28/82 s
Beirut	28/82	22/71 s	29/84	22/71 s
Cairo	36/97	22/71 s	37/99	22/71 s
Damascus	31/88	16/61 s	33/91	18/61 s
Jerusalem	29/84	18/61 s	31/88	19/61 s
Luxor	42/107	21/70 s	43/109	22/71 s
Riyadh	43/109	28/82 s	43/109	28/82 s

Africa

	Today High	Today Low	Tomorrow High	Tomorrow Low
	C/F	C/F	C/F	C/F
Algiers	32/89	19/66 s	32/89	20/68 s
Cape Town	23/73	10/50 s	18/64	8/43 pc
Casablanca	23/73	17/62 s	26/79	18/66 s
Harare	26/79	17/62 pc	21/70	14/57 c
Lagos	29/82	23/73 c	28/82	23/73 pc
Nairobi	24/75	9/48 pc	25/77	9/48 s
Tunis	36/100	23/73 s	34/93	20/68 s

Legend: s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, Ice, W-Weather. All maps, forecasts and data provided by AccuWeather, Inc. © 1996

Asia

	Today High	Today Low	Tomorrow High	Tomorrow Low
	C/F	C/F	C/F	C/F
Bangkok	31/88	24/75 t	31/88	24/75 sh
Beijing	34/93	24/75 s	33/91	24/75 pc
Hong Kong	32/89	28/79 pc	31/88	28/79 c
Manila	31/88	23/73 c	30/86	23/73 c
New Delhi	39/102	28/84 pc	41/105	28/84 pc
Seoul	33/91	23/73 c	33/91	23/73 pc
Shanghai	34/93	28/79 pc	33/91	28/79 pc
Singapore	30/86	23/73 t	29/84	23/73 t
Taipei	32/89	28/79 t	32/89	25/77 t
Tokyo	29/84	20/68 pc	28/82	22/71 pc

Latin America

Buenos Aires	19/66	9/48 c	16/61	3/37 pc
Caracas	31/88	24/75 pc	32/89	24/75 pc
Lima	21/70	18/61 c	21/70	17/62 pc
Mexico City	24/75	13/55 c	25/77	14/57 pc
Rio de Janeiro	28/82	19/64 pc	28/84	19/66 pc
Santiago	12/53	-3/28 c	11/52	1/34 s

North America

Anchorage	19/66	11/52 pc	17/62	11/52 c
Atlanta	32/89	22/71 pc	31/88	21/70 pc
Boston	23/88	20/68 s	30/86	19/64 t
Chicago	30/86	19/61 t	29/84	16/61 pc
Dallas	35/95	23/73 pc	35/97	22/71 s
Denver	29/84	14/57 pc	33/91	19/61 s
Detroit	31/88	17/62 t	29/84	15/59 pc
Honolulu	31/88	23/73 pc	33/91	24/75 pc
Houston	34/93	24/75 t	34/93	23/73 t
Los Angeles	30/86	20/68 s	32/89	20/68 pc
Miami	32/89	24/75 pc	32/89	24/75 pc
Minneapolis	27/80	14/57 s	27/80	17/62 s
Montreal	28/82	17/62 t	27/80	14/57 pc
Nassau	32/89	25/77 pc	32/89	23/73 pc
New York	33/91	23/73 pc	32/89	21/70 t
Phoenix	42/107	29/84 s	41/105	29/84 pc
San Fran.	24/75	14/57 s	28/79	15/59 s
Seattle	31/88	16/59 s	27/80	15/59 pc
Toronto	28/84	16/61 t	25/77	14/57 pc
Vancouver	29/84	15/61 s	25/77	17/62 pc
Washington	32/89	22/71 pc	32/89	21/70 t

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THE AMERICAS

Dole Keeps A Tight Lid On Search for Running Mate

By Blaine Harden and Dan Balz
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — After winnowing down his list of potential running mates, Bob Dole is keeping his options secret, leading a senior campaign official to warn that media speculation might be too narrowly focused.

The official refused to identify the finalists, nor would he name those who have been ruled out.

"It could be someone other than the usual suspects," he said, adding that Mr. Dole was closely guarding his deliberations and that the number of advisers who know what is going on was small. "This is very much Senator Dole's decision and his choice. Aides are a part of it only in as much as they are a resource for his decision-making."

A new contender, Republican sources say, is Jack Kemp, a former NFL quarterback who spent 18 years in the House before serving in President George Bush's cabinet. Mr. Kemp is perhaps the Republican Party's most charismatic proponent of supply-side economics, which Mr. Dole embraced on Monday with his plan for across-the-board tax cuts.

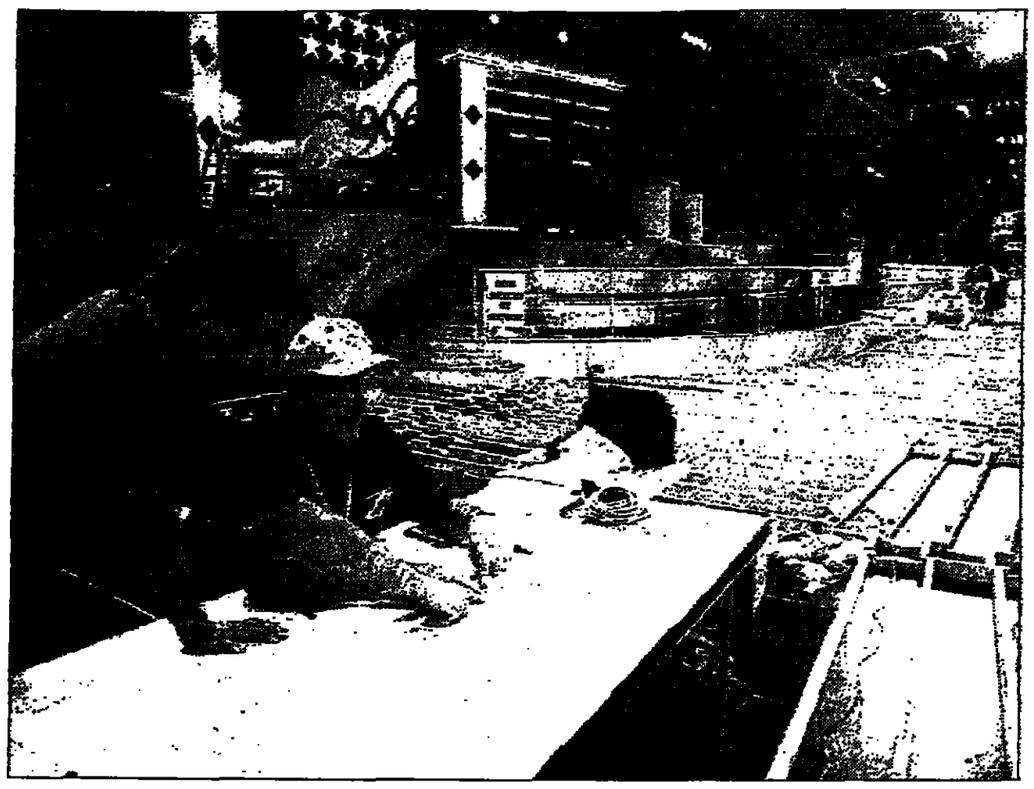
Mr. Kemp and Mr. Dole have long had a difficult relationship, in part because Mr. Dole was — until this week — skeptical of the supply-side faith that tax cuts can trigger deficit-free growth. Also, Mr. Kemp offended Mr. Dole this spring when he endorsed the failing presidential campaign of Malcolm Forbes, just as Mr. Dole was sewing up the nomination.

Republican sources said Mr. Kemp entered the picture after his close friend, William Bennett, a former secretary of education under President Ronald Reagan, made it clear last weekend that he did not want the vice presidential job.

After news of a three-person list was released yesterday, the Dole search committee continued to ask for more background information from Carroll Campbell Jr., a former South Carolina governor, who has been regarded as one of the five main contenders for the vice presidential job.

The selection of a running mate, along with the tax-cut plan that Mr. Dole unveiled on Monday and his acceptance speech at the Republican Convention next week, form a triple crown of August events that Dole strategists hope will inject energy and interest into a race that polls show voters regard as dull. Mr. Dole trails President Bill Clinton by 15 to 20 percentage points in national polls.

The choice is scheduled to be announced Saturday in a ceremony in Mr. Dole's home town of Russell, Kansas. Mr. Dole met Tuesday with Roderick DeArment, a lawyer heading the background checks for potential running mates, and held more meetings on the matter Thursday, according to campaign aides.



David McNew/Reuters

Telephone technicians checking over plans for the Republican gathering at the San Diego Convention Center.

Made-for-TV Republican Convention

Question Remains: Will the Networks Follow the Script?

By James Bennet
New York Times Service

SAN DIEGO — Planning even for the networks' commercial breaks, Republicans have scripted a four-day political television program, which they are calling a convention. Now the question is whether the networks will broadcast it for them.

For at least two decades, the high points of political conventions have been foregone conclusions, plotted as much for television viewers as for the delegates. This year, though, the delegates themselves seem like afterthoughts, or perhaps props.

The Republicans have joined communications technology to new sophistication about network news, "infomercials" and entertainment to plan a tightly disciplined, fast-paced television variety show.

"Instead of putting on a news event they hope the networks will cover, they have come to the point where they're putting on a TV program, hoping they can get much of it past TV journalists, unfiltered," said Tom Hannon, the political director for CNN.

The paradox is that the Republicans have planned all this for the greater glory of Bob Dole, who, more than any other major-party candidate in recent memory, disdains the scripts and the set pieces of television politics.

From his skybox facing the podium, Paul J. Manafort, the political consultant who has masterminded the convention preparations for Mr. Dole, will have direct telephone lines to the officials on the platform, to keep them moving through their brief, tightly scheduled speeches. He will also have direct lines to each state delegation.

"I want to move Governor Whitman from New Jersey over to California, so that CBS can do a picture," Mr. Manafort said by way of example, waving toward the floor while touring his box Wednesday afternoon. "I'll ring down, she'll get the message, we'll have somebody there to escort her."

Referring to the customary challenge of whipping delegates into line, Mr. Manafort added, "If there are any political issues, which there won't be in this convention, I'll also have the capacity to do that from here."

Such thorough programming is risky. By planning so carefully and transparently, the planners could prompt restless journalists to pounce on any deviation from the program, like delegates' dissent over abortion.

"They just need to keep in mind," said Mr. Hannon of CNN, "that we're producing our coverage and they're not, and they're managing their convention and we're not."

But the planners are managing their convention for Mr. Hannon's audience. In a reflection of how little emphasis has been placed on those actually attending the convention, the cramped San Diego hall is, as one Republican official put it, "the worst place in America to watch it." More than 7,000 Republicans with convention passes are expected to sit in rooms outside the hall and watch the proceedings on television.

Even within the hall, print journalists, and many Republicans in "hospitality" skyboxes, will be unable to see the podium, their view blocked by pillars and other obstructions; they too will watch television sets.

From the platform itself, Haley Barbour, the Republican national chairman, will be able to monitor coverage of the proceedings on a 5-inch (12 centimeter) TV set mounted in his desk.

The networks say they have no intention of simply rebroadcasting what Mr. Barbour has taken to calling "a festival of Republican ideas."

"We're not there to be an unmediated conduit for their promotions," said Jeff Gralnick, vice president of ABC News and executive producer of that network's convention coverage.

POLITICAL NOTES

Some States Seek Welfare Waivers

WASHINGTON — Three states and the District of Columbia have filed requests to exempt their jurisdictions from some of the tough new terms of the comprehensive welfare legislation awaiting President Bill Clinton's signature.

Pennsylvania, New Mexico, Nevada and Washington, D.C., seek waivers of current federal welfare law that would enable them to escape some of the new requirements.

For two years, Republican governors such as John Engler of Michigan have complained of having to get federal permission to implement changes approved by their state legislatures.

Among other things, the District of Columbia requested permission to exempt welfare families from the absolute cutoff of benefits after five years if they have followed all the rules and, through no fault of their own, have been unable to get a job that pays more than welfare benefits. *(WP)*

Clinton Makes Pitch In Silicon Valley

SAN JOSE, California — President Bill Clinton swept into California on a three-day swing to tout the benefits of technology and hold out an olive branch to Silicon Valley executives whose enthusiasm for him cooled after he vetoed legislation to cut down on lawsuits by shareholders.

Appearing at the John Muir Middle School and striking a theme he has returned to repeatedly in California, Mr. Clinton emphasized Wednesday the importance of making computers available to all students, saying, "Technology can be the greatest force for good we have ever known if it is properly applied."

His campaign stop was designed to increase his visibility in this politically crucial state before the Republicans take center stage with their San Diego convention. *(NYT)*

Republicans Reward Late Party Primaries

SAN DIEGO — In a move aimed at reversing the trend of state parties holding primary elections early in the political season, the Republican Party's rules committee has voted decisively to award bonus national convention delegates to states that delay choosing a nominee until later in the spring.

By a 32-to-7 vote, the committee approved a proposal that in the election year 2000 will increase the size of a state's national convention delegation by 10 percent if it waits until after March 15 to hold its presidential primary. State delegations would be increased by 5 percentage points for each additional month of delay up to May 15.

Party leaders complained that the rush to hold early primaries this year wrapped up the nomination earlier than usual, denying voters the chance to thoroughly assess the field and causing a sharp falloff in voter turnout after Bob Dole essentially clinched the nomination in mid-March.

The Republican National Committee chairman, Haley Barbour, also noted that this year's front-loaded primaries forced Bob Dole to spend heavily in the early months. If endorsed, as expected, by the Republican National Committee on Thursday and ratified by the full convention next week, the plan could shift the geographic balance of power at Republican conventions, assuming that large states like California, New York, Florida and Texas take the 20 percent bonuses by shifting their primaries until May 15. *(WP)*

Home-Ownership Gets Federal Boost

WASHINGTON — In the administration's continuing effort to increase the home-ownership rate, Housing Secretary Henry Cisneros has launched a program to help 25,000 qualified working public housing residents buy their units or other single-family properties by the year 2000.

Officials at the Department of Housing and Urban Development estimate that 30 percent of the 1.25 million residents living in public housing are capable of buying homes with some government support, such as federally guaranteed mortgages and discounted prices on agency-owned properties.

The department will make $500,000 available to nonprofit and other community organizations, offer pre- and post-purchase home counseling as well as employment training. *(WP)*

Quote / Unquote

G. Terry Madonna, director of the Center for Politics and Public Affairs at Millersville University in Pennsylvania: "This state may be irretrievably lost for Dole. Unless something extraordinary happens, he's going to be clobbered, and a lot of other Republicans with him." *(NYT)*

Fuel Tank Is Suspect in TWA Explosion

By Don Phillips
Washington Post Service

SMITHTOWN, New York — Safety investigators are exploring whether the nearly empty center fuel tank on Trans World Airlines Flight 800 might have exploded in flight, although so far they have developed no such evidence.

While the FBI's criminal investigation continues to look for evidence of a possible bomb or missile, National Transportation Safety Board investigators have never stopped asking what mechanical problems might have caused the Boeing 747 to abruptly break up in flight and kill 230 people.

Within that context, the center fuel tank has emerged as a top possibility in some unknown chain of events that could have provided enough energy to tear the plane apart.

Navy search vessels have yet to locate one of the plane's four engines, leaving a catastrophic engine failure as a possible link in such a chain of events. Sources close to the inquiry said the two complete engines that have been located appear to be the outboard engines on each wing. Part of another engine has been found. The missing engine was directly abeam of the center fuel tank. If it exploded, debris could have flown into the center tank and possibly sparked an explosion of the vapors in the tank.

The center fuel tank, which can hold up to 12,890 gallons, was left nearly empty the night of the crash because Flight 800 was lightly loaded. Only about 50 gallons would have been left in the tank, roughly the amount that is left after a tank is pumped "dry."

There is no evidence so far of any problems with either the fuel tanks or the engines, the sources said. On-board recorders show the engines operated normally to the end, and the tapes contain no evidence of fire alarms or other problems other than a split-second loud sound as the recordings end.

Coincidentally, the Federal Aviation Administration announced on Wednesday a proposed rule to require inspection of Boeing 747 engine fuel motors that have, in at least one case, caused fuel to leak into a parked plane's wheel well and start a small fire. The motors have caused no problems inside tanks, however, and the order may have little relevance to the Flight 800 crash.

The proposed order apparently will require inspection of motors that are used to pump fuel into engines and to dump fuel in an emergency. Boeing advised customers to inspect the motors on Aug. 3, 1995, and has issued several other bulletins since then.

■ Coroner's Report on Victims

The coroner in charge of autopsies on the victims said that most had lost consciousness instantly when the jetliner exploded, and that he doubted any were aware of falling into the sea based on the two types of injuries displayed — those consistent with an explosion and those caused by a huge change in speed, cabin pressure and altitude, The Associated Press reported from East Moriches, New York.

Some passengers may have retained consciousness for one or two seconds after the blast, said Dr. Charles Wetli, the Suffolk County medical examiner.

"The majority lost consciousness instantly," he said.

Democrats Show Wide Gains in Poll

By Richard L. Berke
New York Times Service

SAN DIEGO — For the first time in four years, the Democratic Party is viewed more favorably by voters than the Republican Party, according to the latest New York Times/CBS News Poll.

Underscoring the challenges facing the Republicans as they gather in San Diego to nominate Bob Dole for president next week, the poll showed that the concerns that contributed to voters' repudiation of the Democratic-controlled Congress in 1994 have substantially subsided.

On several policy fronts, from specifics like fairness in taxation to broader themes like helping people "achieve the American dream," registered voters said they trusted Democrats more than Republicans by wide margins.

Despite lingering qualms about President Bill Clinton's character, voters found him far more appealing in several areas than Mr. Dole and were more inclined to favor Democratic candidates for Congress as well.

Indeed, when asked how they would vote in their congressional elections this fall, Americans gave Democrats a larger edge than the Republicans had in the 1994 election when they seized both houses of Congress.

Overall, 55 percent of registered voters expressed a favorable opinion of the Democratic Party, while 39 percent were unfavorable. By contrast, 46 percent held a favorable opinion of the Republican Party, and 47 percent unfavorable.

Not since before Mr. Clinton's election in 1992 have more than half the voters expressed such a positive image of Democratic Party.

The poll of 1,166 adults nationwide has a margin of error of plus or minus 3 percentage points.

While it was completed before Mr. Dole announced his campaign's economic platform Monday, the survey found that the nation was divided over the notion of a 15 percent across-the-board tax cut, which is at the core of his proposal.

There was no sign of erosion in the president's months-long lead over Mr. Dole: 56 percent of registered voters say they would vote for Mr. Clinton if they election were held today, while 34 percent would back Mr. Dole.

The picture may be even rosier for Mr. Clinton should Ross Perot, as expected, run as the candidate of his Reform Party. When Mr. Perot is included in the trial heat, Mr. Clinton's support rises slightly to 58 percent; Mr. Dole's falls back to 28 percent, and Mr. Perot draws 10 percent.

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Away From Politics

• **Rodney King**, the victim of the 1991 beating by Los Angeles police officers, failed to appear at a scheduled sentencing in Alhambra, California, for an unrelated hit-and-run because he had been given the wrong date by his attorney, the judge was told. *(AP)*

• **Scores of detectives and police officers went door to door** through housing projects in Brooklyn, hunting a sniper who shot a detective assigned to an anti-drug crackdown. The detective, saved by his bulletproof vest, left the hospital and returned to the shooting scene to aid in the investigation. *(NYT)*

• **The governor of Arkansas refused to block the execution** of a convicted killer whose conversion to Buddhism led to appeals for his life from, among others, the Dalai Lama, Mother Teresa and the actor Richard Gere. *(Reuters)*

U.S. Case Damaged in Trial Of 3 Accused of Jetliner Plot

By Christopher S. Wren
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — An FBI agent's admission has set back the government's case against three men accused of plotting to bomb U.S. jetliners.

The special agent, Frank Pellegrino, conceded during cross-examination Wednesday that his notes failed to show that he had asked a defendant, Wali Khan Amin Shah, if he had participated in the bombing conspiracy.

Mr. Pellegrino is the FBI agent with primary responsibility for the case. He testified Monday and Tuesday about potentially incriminating statements made by Mr. Shah and another defendant, Abdul Hakim Murad, when he brought them to the United States from Malaysia and the Philippines last year.

Prosecutors contend that the two men joined the third defendant, Ramzi Ahmed Yousef, in a conspiracy to blow up a dozen jumbo jetliners in Asia as revenge for U.S. support of Israel.

Mr. Yousef will stand trial later on charges that he planned the bombing of the World Trade Center in 1993.

Mr. Pellegrino said that he questioned Mr. Shah on the plane for five or six hours on Dec. 12, 1995, after the Malaysian police turned him over.

Under cross-examination by Mr. Shah's lawyer, David S. Greenfield, the agent said he thought he had asked the suspect if he had participated in the bombing plot, but then he grudgingly acknowledged that his six pages of notes made no mention of it.

The interview with Mr. Shah was not taped or taken down verbatim, he said, and his notes were "just to jog a memory" in preparing his report.

The cross-examination seemed intended to convince the jury that Mr. Pellegrino had not properly investigated Mr. Shah's involvement in the affair and had not ascertained his mental state before interviewing the suspect.

He was not offered the services of an Arabic interpreter aboard the aircraft.

HALF A CENTURY
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Indonesia Acts to Tighten the Leash

Suharto Accuses Illegal Leftist Organization of Treason

By Seth Mydans
New York Times Service

JAKARTA — The authorities stepped up pressure Thursday on a small leftist group they blame for last month's riot, accusing it of treason and communism and raising the specter of the kind of violent uprising that brought President Suharto to power 30 years ago.

The president was quoted by Information Minister Harmoko on Wednesday as saying that the illegal group, which calls itself the Democratic People's Party, had "committed activities with the character of treason."

The authorities are seeking to arrest leaders of the group, and the official Antara news agency reported Thursday that several of them had been banned from leaving the country.

At a cabinet meeting Wednesday, Mr. Harmoko said, the president asserted that the group "clearly acted and thought" like the banned Communist Party of Indonesia, which authorities blame for a coup attempt in 1965 that led to the deaths of hundreds of thousands of people.

Officials have sought to link the officially recognized opposition party of Megawati Sukarnoputri with the Democratic People's Party, saying the group had infiltrated her rallies and was responsible for the riot that followed a police raid on her party's headquarters.

Mrs. Megawati, the ousted head of the Indonesian Democratic Party, is due to be questioned by the police Friday as a witness in their investigation into the riot. She has denied any links with the leftist group, but her advisers have in the past expressed their own worries that her pro-democracy movement could be infiltrated by extremists.

Mrs. Megawati, 49, is the daughter of Indonesia's first president, Sukarno, who was ousted by Mr. Suharto in 1966 following the massacres in which the Communist Party was implicated.

For nearly a month before the riot on July 27, hundreds of young people had occupied her party's headquarters, refusing to evacuate after the government engineered her ouster as party leader. The riot erupted after the police stormed the building and ejected her supporters.

In an interview that morning with the newsmagazine Gatra, Budiman Sudjatmiko, 26, the leader of the Democratic People's Party, denied that his group was Communist. He then disappeared and is now in hiding.

"We chose the ideology of democratic socialism because it is the actual need of society," he was quoted as saying. He also rejected the prominent role the military plays in Indonesian politics and society, saying, "We do not hate the military but we hate militarism. The function of the military in a nation of law is basically defense."

An independent human rights group, the Indonesian Legal Aid Foundation, urged authorities Thursday to exercise restraint in pursuing Mr. Sudjatmiko and other suspects.

"The charge of communism has been used as a weapon that kills all the civil and political rights of leaders and activists who are pioneering democratization," the group said in a letter to General Feisal Tanjung, the armed forces commander.

Meanwhile, the National Commission of Human Rights, a respected government group, said Thursday that it had been visiting hospitals and interviewing relatives to compile its own report on the riot and its casualties.

"The most difficult part is to collect information on the missing people," said Clementino Dos Reis Amaral, a member of the commission.

The military has said two people were killed in the riot, while the Legal Aid Foundation said at least three and perhaps seven or more died. Close to 100 people were reported injured, and more than 20 buildings were damaged or burned.

Ebrey Nurobeni/Reuters

Police playing chess while on guard Thursday at the headquarters of the Indonesian Democratic Party.

Food Poisoning Sickens Hundreds in India

Reuters

BOMBAY — Doctors battling a food poisoning outbreak said Thursday that they would import emergency supplies of an anti-toxin to treat more than 100 seriously ill people.

One person has already died and about two dozen are critically ill. Doctors are blaming the deadly botulism bacteria, for which no antitoxin is available in India, officials said.

"It's a rare case, but there's a very strong possibility it could be botulism," said R. G. Shirhatti, dean of Sion Hospital, where most of the victims are being treated.

"We should have the anti-toxin within a day or two," he said.

The victims, most aged between 18 and 35, complained of giddiness, abdominal pains and body ache, authorities said.

Officials said 200 people ate contaminated food at a party in the textile manufacturing town of Bhiwandi, about 125 kilometers from Bombay.

"I ate rice, vegetables and dal at the party on Tuesday night," one patient at Sion Hospital said. "Yesterday afternoon I began to have severe stomachache and bodyache. I was giddy."

Though there have been no new deaths since Wednesday, nearly two dozen people are in critical condition, hospital officials said.

"The outlook is pretty grim," Mr. Shirhatti said. "But I expect they will pull through."

The police said the owner of the canteen where the party was held was among those ill.

His son, who also worked there, has been arrested in connection with the incident.

Reuters

Cabbages lying unharvested this week in Tsumakoi, Japan, as a result of the food-poisoning panic.

■ Japan Radish Growers Angry

Japanese radish-sprout growers reacted furiously Thursday to government statements that radish sprouts could have been the source of a food-poisoning epidemic in Japan, Reuters reported. "The way the government made the announcement was wrong," said the head of the growers group.

BRIEFLY ASIA

Burmese Exiles Mark Uprising

BANGKOK — Exiled Burmese dissidents shed their own blood and staged hunger strikes Thursday to mark the eighth anniversary of one of the bloodiest days in a failed pro-democracy uprising in Rangoon.

Several members of a group of chanting dissidents cut themselves during a protest in front of the Burmese Embassy in Bangkok and smeared their blood on the embassy wall, next to paper blood drops taped to the embassy sign.

In central Tokyo, a group of Burmese activists started a 36-hour hunger strike to demand that the Japanese government halt economic assistance to Burma's military government. *(Reuters)*

Sri Lanka Units Batter Tamils

COLOMBO — Sri Lankan warplanes and artillery pounded Tamil rebel positions Thursday, trying to crack the guerrillas' fierce defense of their largest stronghold, military officials said.

For three days, rebels with the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam have blocked the military's assault on Kilinochchi, one of the last towns still under rebel control. The rebels have been fighting for a homeland in the north and east for 13 years.

Guerrillas in heavily fortified bunkers and irrigation ditches have rained rockets and mortars on the armor and infantry columns, halting the advance.

"They continue to offer heavy resistance," a spokesman said. "There are large numbers of anti-personnel mines, anti-tank mines and booby traps." *(AP)*

2 Khmer Rouge Leaders Defect

PHNOM PENH — Two senior Khmer Rouge commanders have defected to the Cambodian government with their troops and have been made army generals, Second Prime Minister Hun Sen said Thursday.

Sok Peap and Ei Chien and their combined forces of about 3,000 guerrillas came over to the government side several days ago after Hun Sen and the co-defense minister, Tea Banh, had negotiated for two months to arrange the deal, the prime minister said. *(Reuters)*

Philippine Christians Protest

ZAMBOANGA, Philippines — Thousands of Christians opposed to a peace pact with Muslim rebels defied a ban Thursday, staging a noisy protest timed to coincide with a fact-finding visit by a Philippine Senate team.

Police officers estimated that 10,000 people showed up outside the Orchid Garden Hotel in Zamboanga City, chanting slogans and banging drums. Police officers did not intervene and made no arrests, witnesses said.

Christians across the southern island of Mindanao have protested against the pact, which calls for the creation of a Southern Philippine Council for Peace and Development to be headed by a Muslim rebel. *(Reuters)*

VOICES From Asia

Pak Dok Hun, spokesman for Pyongyang's diplomatic mission to the UN European headquarters, on discussions with the United Nations on speeding or increasing foreign aid after disastrous flooding in North Korea: "We have undergone a series of natural disasters over the past decade, which have caused us serious problems." *(Reuters)*

Prime Minister Mahathir bin Mohamad of Malaysia, on domestic opposition to a hydroelectric dam project, which he said had been stoked by Western environmentalists: "Locals should not play a part in this anti-national movement." *(AFP)*

Seoul Aims To Perk Up Economy In Shuffle

Reuters

SEOUL — President Kim Young Sam of South Korea replaced his finance minister and five other cabinet ministers Thursday in a shake-up aimed at reviving the economy, a presidential spokesman said.

The new finance minister, Han Seung Soo, replaced Rha Woong Bae, who has recently suffered criticism for the country's slowing exports and bulging current account deficit.

Mr. Han will also serve as deputy prime minister in charge of the economy. He was formerly a trade minister. Seoul's ambassador to Washington, chief secretary to Mr. Kim and an economics professor.

"The focus of this partial cabinet reshuffle is on the replacement of the deputy prime minister in charge of the economy," said the spokesman, Yoon Yeo Joon. "This reflects President Kim's strong intention to vitalize our economy."

South Korea last month posted its largest ever six-month current account shortfall, while its June industrial output rose only 3.8 percent from a year earlier, the lowest growth in 28 months.

Mr. Kim named five other new cabinet ministers, including Science and Technology Minister Koo Bon Young, Information and Communications Minister Kang Bong Kyun and Health and Welfare Minister Lee Sung Ho.

The post of chief presidential economic adviser, considered to be the second most powerful economic position after the finance minister, will be held by the current, reform-oriented information and communications minister, Lee Suk Chae.

"The president made it very clear that he would not sit idly and see the economy slowing down," said Jwa Seung Hee, an economist at the Korea Development Institute, a government research organization. "I expect the government to seek policies to boost exports."

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EUROPE

Blair's 'Macho Man' Image Imperils Labor Party, a Colleague Warns

Shadow Minister Fears a Restructured Left Could Weaken Chances of an Election Victory

By Barry James
International Herald Tribune

NEWS ANALYSIS

Just when it appeared that Tony Blair had everything under control and seemed well on the way to becoming prime minister in Britain's next general election, one of his shadow cabinet colleagues has broken the spell by suggesting that the Labor Party could lose "for a generation if not forever" by conveying to voters the idea that it has lost its principles.

Seeking to win voters from all sectors of society, Mr. Blair has played down his party's leftist antecedents and positioned himself as Britain's version of Bill Clinton. But some critics call Mr. Blair's "New Labor" merely a watered-down version of the ruling Conservative Party, or "Tory Lite."

In setting out a scenario for possible Labor defeat, Clare Short, a Labor minister in waiting, made it clear in an interview published Wednesday that she was not attacking Mr. Blair. He is a "fresh, young, principled and decent man," she said.

Instead, she accused spin doctors and image makers — "people who live in the dark" — of recasting a ruthless "Macho Man" image for Mr. Blair "because they think it's the way to win."

"I think they are making the wrong judgment, and they endanger our victory," she said.

Miss Short's anger over Mr. Blair's team of media advisers has been building a head of steam for some time. She accused them of placing undue reliance on "focus groups" — small groups of sample voters — to find out how the party was doing rather than listening to the voices of ordinary people.

"I think the obsession with the media and focus groups is making us look as if we want power at any price and that we don't stand for anything," she said.

Miss Short said the reliance on a false image could cost Labor the election, which is expected before next spring. "I think it is absolutely imperative for Britain and the party that we win," she said. "If we don't win it would be the end of Labor as a party of power at least for a generation, if not forever. I have thought for the first time over the past few weeks that we could throw away that victory."

Mr. Blair demoted Miss Short a couple of weeks ago from spokesman on transport to shadow minister for overseas aid. She made no attempt to hide her disappointment. In the interview, she said she had been deeply hurt by some of her party colleagues, although she did not criticize Mr. Blair.

Her attack on the image makers was not the first time Miss Short has embarrassed the party: She uttered the forbidden "T-word" by suggesting that the comfortably-off, such as she, could pay higher taxes. She also proposed a debate on whether certain "soft" drugs could be decriminalized, as they are in other parts of Europe.

But she has a lot of support on the left of the party and among voters. A feisty and controversial politician, she arouses strong feelings for and against her campaigns, which included an attempt to legislate against the publication of semi-pornographic pictures of women by Britain's tabloid newspapers.

A sign in her office proclaims, "All thought has a duty to be rebellious."

Mr. Blair, who was on vacation in Italy, said in a statement that Miss Short's remarks had been "blown out of all proportion." But the deputy leader, John Prescott, said the remarks had given "a great deal of ammunition to the Tory Party, and as someone who is concerned to see that the Labor Party wins the next election, I can't be happy about that."

Conservative politicians, of course, fell on the remarks with glee. Labor's leadership was "split from top to bottom between those who want to tell the truth about Mr. Blair's dangerous policies and the dark forces who want to lie about them," said the Conservative Party chairman, Brian Mawhinney.

Mr. Blair has remolded a party once riddled with dissent into an effective political machine with a real chance of winning after 17 years in the wilderness. This transformation involved becoming middle-class rather than working-class, distancing the party from the labor unions, and fudging on controversial issues such as Europe, observers said.

Miss Short dismissed the modernizers who proclaimed how much the party had changed by distinguishing the "old" from the "new."

"These people are making a terrible error," she said. "They think that Labor is unelectable, so they want to get something else elected, even though really it's still the Labor Party. This is a dangerous game, which assumes people are stupid.

"It gets to the point where you are ashamed of your own past. And yet we brought in the National Health Service. I have had more opportunities than any other generation in my family: university, the jobs I have done. My life opportunities were brought to me by Labor, and what they are doing now is allowing the Tory propaganda version of Labor to be the reality."

Unions Vow 'Encounters' If Chirac Presses Ahead With Austerity Measures

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

PARIS — Union leaders on Thursday warned President Jacques Chirac of France that austerity measures proposed by his conservative government would cause a wave of labor unrest when the summer holiday season ends next month.

Louis Viannet, general secretary of the Communist-led General Labor Confederation, said the government's plan to cut 60 billion francs ($12 billion) in public spending next year would take a further toll on consumer spending, general economic activity and employment.

"The government is taking a risk of a far worse recession and a deterioration in the labor sphere," Mr. Viannet told Europe 1 radio. "I have to say this paves the way for heated encounters with the labor movement."

The unions will try to "create the conditions to unite everyone going far beyond just the civil servants," he said, "to build something very strong."

The government's austerity plans were detailed by Prime Minister Alain Juppe in his budget for 1997. They include eliminating 8,000 civil service jobs, which would likely raise France's record unemployment rate of 12.5 percent.

Mr. Juppe's drive to curb welfare spending and overhaul the unprofitable state railway system sparked a 24-day public transport strike that virtually paralyzed France in November and December, forcing him to shelve the reform.

That protest was widely considered to have ended in a draw, leaving many union members spoiling for a replay.

Marc Blondel, general secretary of the Workers' Force union, who spearheaded last year's strike movement, said Thursday that the government had chosen to please the financial markets by increasing pressure on workers, the unemployed and pensioners.

"In these conditions, it will be up to the workers to make their voices heard," he said. "That's what will be at stake after the holidays."

Jean Arthuis, the finance minister, said in a radio interview Thursday that the government based its budget on estimated growth of 2.5 percent to 2.8 percent in the economy next year, a level slightly above that of private forecasters.

Paribas Capital Markets, for example, recently forecast French 1997 gross domestic product growth of 2.4 percent, while Nikko Europe PLC forecast an expansion of only 2 percent.

If the budget is based on over-optimistic growth assumptions, tax revenue very likely will be lower than projected while expenditures probably will be higher. That will make it difficult to keep the deficit within 3 percent of gross domestic product, as called for in the Maastricht treaty for joining a single European currency.

(Reuters, Knight-Ridder)

■ Credit Lyonnais Inquiry

The French government is taking new action against Credit Lyonnais, the state-controlled bank that lost 21 billion francs ($4.1 billion) of taxpayers' money from 1992 to 1994, news agencies reported.

The Justice Ministry said it received a letter from Mr. Arthuis asking for legal action against the bank's Altus Finance subsidiary. The letter asked the ministry to determine if a crime had been committed, citing comments by an auditor.

The news followed publication of an interview with Mr. Arthuis in the newspaper Le Monde, in which the minister said the government planned to sue the former managers "for failure to control the subsidiaries" of the bank.

Although Mr. Arthuis did not mention him by name, the legal action is believed to target Jean-Yves Haberer, an executive with ties to the previous Socialist government who was chairman of Credit Lyonnais until 1993.

The Le Monde report also said that the legal action "could have the effect of destabilizing" the current governor of the Bank of France, Jean-Claude Trichet, who was head of the French Treasury and responsible for controlling state-owned banks in the early 1990s, when Mr. Haberer instituted an aggressive lending policy.

There are already 42 legal actions against managers of Credit Lyonnais subsidiaries, but none involve managers at the parent bank.

(AFX, Knight-Ridder, Bloomberg)

Michel Euler/The Associated Press

GIMME — Parisians reaching out Friday for free fruit and vegetables distributed by farmers protesting a drop in wholesale prices. Swamped, the farmers were forced to drop plans to give away 50 tons of produce.

EU Mounts Assault on Sanctions Law

By Joseph Fitchett
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — The European Union will officially protest to the Clinton administration about a controversial U.S. law mandating penalties on foreign companies that make energy investments in Iran or Libya, European officials said Thursday.

In an unusual step intended to underline their concern, the officials said EU governments had sought a formal meeting at the U.S. State Department late Thursday to deliver a formal complaint.

The officials were expected to warn Washington that European countries were prepared to take joint retaliatory action if any of their companies were punished by the U.S. legislation or by a similar law affecting trade with Cuba.

With a striking degree of unanimity, European governments have aligned themselves against the new law, sponsored by Senator Alfonse D'Amato, Republican of New York, and signed this week by President Bill Clinton. The law aims to isolate economically Iran and Libya, countries that Washington accuses of sponsoring international terrorism.

The U.S. intention is to cripple both governments by blocking international investment in the oil and gas sector, their main source of foreign exchange. But EU governments, now supported by Japan, Australia, Malaysia and other Asian nations, called the measure unilateral interference with their own commercial freedom.

In a sign of mounting European opposition, France on Thursday leaked plans to reinstate government-funded export guarantees for trade with Iran. The step followed months of secret negotiations to settle claims that Tehran owed French companies, mainly Peugeot, the automotive manufacturer, some 600 million francs ($120 million).

Tehran will pay the debt in petroleum deliveries to Total SA, a French oil company with a $600-million investment program in Iran. Both accords are outside the purview of the D'Amato act: Total signed its development project before the law was passed, and the new deal concerns trade, not investment.

Even so, French officials, speaking on condition that they not be identified, portrayed the plan to restore trade guarantees as a sign of French independence. In contrast, last month when Tehran first agreed to pay, Paris played down the breakthrough.

The package promises expanded trade, officials said: restoring France's guarantee against losses due to default or legal problems with Iran — coverage suspended since 1993 — will reduce exporters' risks and costs.

Germany and Japan, Iran's main trading partners, extend similar guarantees. With Italy, they outrank France in their economic stakes in Iran.

Anti-Yeltsin Groups Retain Zyuganov as Alliance Head

By Lee Hockstader
Washington Post Service

MOSCOW — The Russian Communist Party leader, Gennadi Zyuganov, who was defeated in his effort to oust President Boris Yeltsin at the polls last month, has retained leadership of a broad coalition of Communists and nationalists that plans to challenge the Yeltsin forces in regional elections this fall.

Since Mr. Zyuganov's decisive defeat in the second round of presidential voting on July 3, there had been signs that the diverse factions that backed him might go their own ways and leave the opposition in disarray.

But with the prominent exception of a Stalinist labor leader, Viktor Anpilov — who was deemed too radical by Zyuganov lieutenants — the "Red-Brown" alliance of Communists and nationalists has thus far remained generally intact.

The coalition reconstituted itself formally Thursday as a movement called the Popular Patriotic Union of Russia and elected Mr. Zyuganov as its leader without opposition. As in Mr. Zyuganov's presidential campaign, which soft-pedaled traditional Communist ideology in favor of nationalist appeals, the newly named movement signaled its intention to stick to patriotic themes.

"Either we unite our patriotic feelings or we lose our beloved country," Mr. Zyuganov told the 359 delegates. If the movement can hold together despite its competing ideological viewpoints, it will be partly because of Mr. Zyuganov's conciliatory style, which makes him unobjectionable to the coalition's wide array of factions.

But it will also be due in part to the fact that many opponents of the Yeltsin government are convinced they must present a united front if they hope to defeat pro-Yeltsin regional leaders in gubernatorial elections this fall.

Moreover, amid widespread rumors that President Yeltsin is seriously ill, it is never far from opposition thinking that another presidential election may come rather sooner than later.

Mr. Zyuganov said Thursday that the movement must be ready for "sudden changes" — explaining that Russia's economic woes could lead to political "radicalization" and "a chain reaction of collapse" that an ailing Yeltsin and his supporters would be "unable to control."

Mr. Zyuganov, speaking to reporters, said that the party has the task "preserving the country." It remains unclear whether the Communists and nationalists in Parliament will support Mr. Yeltsin's likely renomination of Viktor Chernomyrdin as prime minister.

The question will arise in the next few days in the Communist-dominated State Duma — the lower house of Parliament — which may either confirm Mr. Yeltsin's choice, or reject it and thus bring about a constitutional confrontation.

Nearly a quarter of the delegates to the movement's founding convention are members of the Russian Communist Party, while smaller delegations represented other Marxist factions and a welter of nationalist groups that want Russia to challenge the West and reestablish itself as a superpower.

BRIEFLY EUROPE

France Deports 78 Illegal Aliens

PARIS — Despite growing calls for a relaxation of the government's tough policy against illegal immigrants, 78 Malians and Moroccans were expelled on a charter flight, the Interior Ministry announced Thursday.

The charter was the 22d such flight since the conservative government gained power 15 months ago.

An Interior Ministry statement announcing the expulsions said 23 of the 78 people on the flight were serving prison terms in French jails. Since May of last year, 15,504 illegal aliens have been expelled from France, including 7,632 this year alone, according to the Interior Ministry. *(AP)*

Rothschild Death Is Ruled Suicide

LONDON — Amschel Rothschild, a leading member of a banking dynasty, died by committing suicide, an inquest ruled Thursday.

Mr. Rothschild's widow, Anita, told the hearing in central London that her husband suffered from "depressive tendencies" and had been upset by his mother's recent death.

Mr. Rothschild, 41, was found on July 8 hanging by the cord of his bathrobe in his bathroom in a Paris hotel. *(Reuters)*

Ulster Protestants Protest U.K. Move

BELFAST — Northern Ireland's second city, Londonderry, was tense Thursday after British troops sealed off a section of its historic walls to keep Protestant demonstrators from marching near a Catholic area on Saturday.

Britain said that it wanted to prevent renewed violence, but irate Protestants accused London of caving in to Irish nationalist agitation and said they feared a rival march by Catholics scheduled for Friday night could bring trouble. Barricades and barbed wire were erected along a 400-meter stretch of the city walls on Wednesday evening.

Alistair Simpson, leader of the Apprentice Boys association, which had planned on marching along part of the 17th century walls that overlook the Catholic Bogside district, said his organization was "bitterly disappointed and angry." *(Reuters)*

EU Approves Mine-Clearing Fund

BRUSSELS — The European Union on Thursday approved a $4.6 million grant to help finance United Nations efforts to clear land mines in Bosnia and Croatia.

More than 3 million mines have been sown around the two former Yugoslav republics and form a major obstacle to reconstruction, according to the Union.

The grant follows a similar EU donation last year to finance mine-clearance operations in Angola and Mozambique. *(AP)*

Libya Releases Italian Fishermen

ROME — Libya has agreed to release seven Italian fishermen held since March for violating the country's territorial waters, Italy's Foreign Ministry said. It said the release followed a recent visit to Tripoli by a senior Foreign Ministry official.

The announcement Wednesday came two days after President Bill Clinton signed legislation aimed at cracking down on terrorism by punishing foreign investors in Libya and Iran.

Italy, which is Libya's largest trading partner, termed the measure "inappropriate." *(AP)*

German Seeks Scientology Inquiry

BONN — German authorities should put the Church of Scientology under observation as an extremist group, a leading member of Chancellor Helmut Kohl's party said Thursday.

Johannes Gerster, head of the Christian Democratic Union in Mr. Kohl's home state, Rhineland-Palatinate, also urged that Scientologists be banned from government jobs and that the authorities review the group's nonprofit status. *(AP)*

Flooding Kills 62 at Spanish Campsite

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

BIESCAS, Spain — At least 62 people died and more than 180 were hurt when a torrent of mud and rock triggered by flash floods swept over a crowded campsite in the Pyrenees of northern Spain, officials said Thursday.

Officials said the death toll could rise. By Thursday afternoon, they said, more than 100 people remained unaccounted for.

The police said 650 people, mostly Spaniards, were staying at the Virgen de Las Nieves campsite on the outskirts of Biescas, a small mountain town about 24 kilometers (15 miles) from the French border.

The flooding began Wednesday night as torrential rain tore up rocks and formed rivers of mud. On Thursday, the site looked like a battlefield with cars and caravans strewn about and trees torn from the ground.

Some of bodies of victims were pulled from the mud as far as 15 kilometers downstream from the campsite, officials said. Only 17 had been identified by midday, including six victims from Germany, France and Belgium, state radio said. The campers also included British and Dutch vacationers.

"I have flown over the area — it's a dreadful sight," said Prime Minister Jose Maria Aznar, who interrupted a beach holiday to survey the damage.

Rescue teams recovered the computer disk drive containing information on guests at the campsite, which will help determine the number of missing campers.

"It all happened in a flash," one survivor told Spanish television. "I can't explain it, it was like a giant wave carrying off everything — the cars, the trailers. It was a matter of seconds, not even minutes. The main street in the campsite was a river of mud, between one and two meters deep."

Wrecked cars, flattened caravans and other debris were carried up to a kilometer away. Rescue workers said some people had saved themselves by clinging to trees. One man who survived by grabbing a branch said he had watched bodies being swept past.

"I ran to try to help a girl. But a time comes when it's either you or them," Antonio Espinosa told national television from a hospital. "I got out alive, but I don't know what happened to the girl." *(Reuters, AP)*

Burda Executive Dies in Plane Crash

Reuters

MUNICH — Four people were killed when a private plane owned by a German publishing company crashed on Thursday in southwestern Germany.

Burda GmbH said the two pilots and two passengers, including Gerd Bolls, a board member, were killed when the plane went down near Offenburg.

The plane had taken off from Munich.

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EDITORIALS/OPINION

Herald INTERNATIONAL Tribune
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Life Out There, Perhaps

There is a temptation to make light of the claim that evidence of primitive microscopic life has been detected in a rock that fell from Mars. After so many decades of wondering whether intelligent beings had built canals on the planet's surface, it seems an awful letdown to be arguing now over whether a tiny single-celled organism might have existed billions of years ago on the red planet.

The evidence for even that much life, moreover, is hardly conclusive. This could still turn out to be a colossally wrong interpretation — or a wild propaganda salvo fired by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration at a time when all federal agencies are desperately seeking to justify their budgets.

President Bill Clinton sounded like a space enthusiast's dream on Wednesday when he called the discovery "another vindication of America's space program" and pledged to put the program's "full intellectual power and technological prowess behind the search for further evidence of life on Mars."

But we are reluctant to treat this dramatic claim frivolously. If the finding is confirmed by stronger evidence, it will be one of the most dramatic scientific discoveries ever made, even bigger than the first clumsy steps by mankind on the moon. When historians of the future look back at our age, a transforming event of our time might be the discovery that life on Earth is not unique but part of a broader canvas.

The claim of Martian life forms gains credence from the authority of those making it. The scientists involved, primarily from NASA and Stanford University, are respected professionals, and Science magazine, the distinguished journal that published their findings, subjects papers to careful peer review before publishing them. But even the scientists themselves acknowledge that they have found no final proof.

What they did find when they examined a potato-sized meteorite from Mars that landed in Antarctica some 13,000 years ago was various organic molecules and minerals and fossil-like structures that could have been produced by ancient micro-organisms. But the chemicals and structures could also have been produced by nonbiologic processes. Taken individually, the authors acknowledge, every piece of evidence they found could have an alternative explanation. But considered collectively, the circumstantial evidence suggested the presence of "primitive life on early Mars."

There are uncertainties all along the line of reasoning. The meteorite, although characteristic of Mars, might conceivably have originated elsewhere. It might have been formed at temperatures too high to allow life. The molecules found in it might have been produced by normal chemical and geological processes rather than by microorganisms. Or those chemicals might have penetrated into the rock after it landed on Earth, either in Antarctica or by contamination in the laboratory.

The most controversial evidence, the tiny fossil-like structures, might simply be dried-up mud cracks or other inorganic matter.

A discovery of life on Mars, even primitive life in the very distant past, would have profound intellectual and philosophical implications. It would be another step in the centuries-old process of moving humanity from the center of the universe. It would also raise questions as to whether life originated independently on Earth and Mars or started first on one planet and then migrated to the other, or perhaps migrated from somewhere else entirely.

If life did form independently on two separate planets in our own small solar system, that would raise the likelihood that life might be found elsewhere in the universe as well. Creationists who find it difficult to accept the evolution of life on Earth might face even greater difficulties in coping with life evolving elsewhere.

For the moment, confirmation is surely needed before we let this inconclusive finding propel us too far toward an intensified hunt for life on other worlds or toward a drastic revision of science, theology or the federal space budget. But, given the intergalactic speed with which science has advanced in this century, it would be prudent to hold the jokes.

— THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Free Science Should Explore Mars and Beyond

By Richard Zare

STANFORD, California — There are defining moments in every epoch that capture the period's unique characteristics and change the course of history. The defining moment of the space age could well be the discovery that we are not alone in the universe.

The announcement on Wednesday by researchers from NASA's Johnson Space Center, Stanford University, the University of Georgia and McGill University took a step toward such a defining moment. The team, of which I am a member, reported the discovery of what may be fossils of microbes in the interior of a meteorite, suggesting that primitive life existed on Mars more than 3.5 billion years ago.

This discovery could alter the way we think about human existence and our world. What if life is not special to Earth but ubiquitous in the universe?

We will only be able to answer this question, let alone understand the consequences, if we revive flagging interest in supporting scientific research.

Our conclusion must be evaluated by other scientific teams. It would be extremely difficult to determine if single-celled life existed on Earth 3.5 billion years ago, let alone on Mars. So it is possible that other scientists could figure out a nonbiological explanation for what we have seen. But in more than two years spent trying to come up with such an alternative explanation, we have not succeeded.

If we are right and life evolved on Mars during an early period in its history when it had an atmosphere and climate similar to Earth's, then it is likely that life evolved on the countless other planets that scientists now believe exist in our galaxy.

Some people may consider this another blow to mankind's dignity and sense of self-importance. Starting with the Renaissance, the belief has been that man is the measure of all things.

Then came the Copernican revolution, which displaced Earth and humankind from the center of the universe. Next, Darwin eliminated the qualitative differences thought to exist between humans and the rest of the animal kingdom. Then came Freud, who showed that we are not the rational beings we had thought ourselves to be.

The realization that we are living on a tiny planet, orbiting a mediocre star in the galactic hinterlands, may be humbling. Yet the possibility that life is not just limited to Earth should make the universe seem an even more exciting and wondrous place.

In our work on the meteor, serendipity played a role, along with the steady pursuit of pure scientific knowledge. Who knew that the meteor discovered 12 years ago in Antarctica might prove to be from Mars? Who could have anticipated that recent breakthroughs in laser technology could be brought to bear on the question of life on Mars?

Scientific research often yields surprising results, which is why science should be supported for its own sake.

When nations lose their will to explore, they soon perish. We can hope that the meteorite findings will help renew America's commitment to the exploration of space and other frontiers.

This does not simply mean more manned space missions, although eventually we must send people to other planets. We can gain much by studying the more than 40,000 tons of extraterrestrial material that land on Earth each year in the form of dust and meteorites. Advances in robotics will make it possible to learn a lot from unmanned planetary missions.

Our forebears were not afraid to explore the terra incognita they called the New World. We must not shrink from the challenge to explore the new worlds that await us in the cosmos.

The writer, a professor of chemistry at Stanford University, contributed this comment to The New York Times.

The Intervention Force in Bosnia: Much Done, More to Do

By Javier Solana

The writer is secretary-general of NATO.

BRUSSELS — The NATO-led Implementation Force has passed the halfway point in its mission. Bosnia-Herzegovina is quiet. Opposing forces have been separated. Troops of all parties have returned to barracks. Heavy weapons, which intimidated and held Sarajevo and other populations under siege, have been stored and placed under the force's supervision.

This is an immense achievement — more than could have been hoped for at the start of the operation, which brings together 16 NATO allies and 16 other countries, including Russia.

But the peace is fragile. Much has to be done by the parties to make it permanent, including cooperating with the international community to rebuild the country and its society.

Four years of conflict have devastated infrastructure. To revive political and economic life, infrastructure must first be restored. In this regard, the Implementation Force, IFOR, has always been available to help, beyond its mandated tasks. What it has already done has been considerable.

IFOR has assisted in more than 3,000 civic action projects. We have 7,000 engineers in theater, from 25 countries, and their skills have had a tremendous impact. IFOR has repaired or rebuilt more than 60 bridges, together with more than 2,500 kilometers of main roads and many railway lines throughout Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Gas, water and electricity supplies are being restored, schools and hospitals rebuilt, and telecommunications repaired with the aid of CIMIC specialists — civil-military cooperation personnel. These personnel also assist in a wide variety of projects through advice on public transportation, agriculture, housing, education, industry and other subjects.

IFOR is also working to open Sarajevo, Banja Luka and Mostar airports to civilian traffic.

Normal life cannot be lived in ruins. Freedom of movement cannot be exercised without roads or bridges, or when 5 million mines remain to be discovered and cleared. Without neglecting its key military tasks, IFOR will over the next months spend even more time assisting the civil agencies.

In this regard, I see three important IFOR contributions.

- In providing priority assistance to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in conducting the crucial elections in September. They will be a turning point. They provide the first real chance for people to have their voices heard. They will put in place common institutions for the whole of Bosnia-Herzegovina.
- In continuing our support to other international and humanitarian organizations performing essential tasks, such as the office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the International Police Task Force and the Red Cross.
- In addition to providing a secure environment, IFOR provides emergency, logistic, medical and other support to civil agencies, as well as substantial information assistance.

It also produces radio and television programs, and develops and prints tens of thousands of posters, leaflets, children's comic books and other material to advance public safety, to foster mine awareness, to contribute to traffic safety, to promote national reconciliation and to support the election process.

- In preventing the creation of international boundaries within Bosnia-Herzegovina. We want to help make freedom of movement a reality, and open the way to resettlement of refugees and displaced persons.

IFOR is adapting its force structure by replacing heavy units with more mobile ones. Its patrols will continue to extend and increase throughout Bosnia-Herzegovina. This will help ensure greater freedom of movement for citizens, and none for indicted war criminals.

We will continue our policy of arresting indicted war criminals on sight and of assisting the War Crimes Tribunal in its investigations. The recent agreement by which Radovan Karadzic has withdrawn from political activities is welcome and removes an obstacle to holding free and fair elections. But justice remains to be done.

The proper place for Mr. Karadzic and all other indicted war criminals is in The Hague, to stand trial for the war crimes for which they have been indicted. Time is running out for Mr. Karadzic and Ratko Mladic; their chief preoccupation now is avoiding arrest. They have become a heavy liability to the Bosnian Serbs.

If the Bosnian Serbs are serious about peace, and about building a society worth living in, they should cooperate with the War Crimes Tribunal.

Clearly, IFOR has entered a new phase of operations in the remaining months of its mandate. Ensuring that the parties keep to the military obligations contained in the peace accord will remain its top priority.

The whole of the international community must continue to pressure all parties to fulfill their responsibilities under the peace agreement and to begin reconciliation. Only they can pave the road to a lasting peace.

International Herald Tribune.

The West Is Too Often Getting Asia Out of Focus

By Philip Bowring

HONG KONG — The West is agog with what is happening in the East. Daily deluged with statistics of Asian growth, it is naturally keen to know the reasons. Political pundits, populist theorizers, economists and fund managers all jump to provide explanations.

Curious perceptions of Asia often come through. In some cases they seem naive assumptions that a way of doing things in one or two Asian countries is common to all the successful economies. At other times Western observers selectively use Asian success to justify their existing theories and prejudices.

Take three examples.

At the breathless level there is John Naisbitt's "Megatrends Asia," a collection of tabloid headlines. Most jarring for many Asians will be that the region's economic success is in large measure due to ethnic Chinese.

"The Cold War is over and the Chinese won," Mr. Naisbitt says. Not only do they already run most of Southeast Asia, he asserts, but Chinese networks are a new paradigm for the world economy. Networks will supersede the nation-state in a world in which capital and talent have no national allegiance. Most non-Chinese Asians now believe that "what is good for the Chinese of Southeast Asia is even better for the indigenous peoples and cultures."

This is too close for comfort to the sort of things once said about Jews. It plays straight into the hands of nationalists who suspect the national loyalty of their ethnic Chinese compatriots and in the past have encouraged violence against them.

It ignores, for instance, that Malaysia has spent 25 years redistributing national wealth to try to eliminate identification of race with class. Or that Indonesia has been similarly concerned not just with wealth imbalances but with any ethnic Chinese identification with China's national interests.

It ignores the social progress — in education, health and so on — that has been as important as entrepreneurship in underpinning Southeast Asian development. Above all it ignores the key role of the nation-state.

Who could doubt the importance of national pride in driving South Korea and its companies? Or the primacy of maintaining unity through national identity not only for vast and diverse Indonesia but also for city-state Singapore?

No one doubts the huge role of ethnic Chinese in business in Southeast Asia, and the contribution of networks (not all of them Chinese) to trade and capital flows. But exaggerating the importance of an ethnic group is dangerous and wrongheaded.

A more scientific view of Asian success is offered by the World Competitiveness Report put out by the World Economic Forum with the help of Harvard's free market ideologue Jeffrey Sachs. It ranks Singapore and Hong Kong in the top two spots, and Asian economies make up seven of the top 20. The report acknowledges the problems of squeezing various factors into a single index, but does claim that it is a good guide to future growth prospects.

From an Asian perspective the criteria appear singularly biased toward openness to foreign investors, and take scant note of the achievements of less open economies.

Entrepots like Singapore and Hong Kong have little choice but to be open. Yet it is hard to see in what activity Hong Kong is particularly competitive, other than trading with China, and some types of financial service. Its five-year GDP growth per capita has been lackluster.

The Asian economies other than Japan that have grown most rapidly over a long period while not being particularly reliant on foreign investment are Taiwan and South Korea. They now have companies that are major global players in semiconductors, computer peripherals, steel, autos, petrochemicals, shipping, shipbuilding, etc. It is the investment decisions of these companies, and their equivalents in Japan, that have been the major factors in the industrialization of Southeast Asia and parts of China.

The two states also have education systems better attuned to modern industry than most in the OECD world. Yet South Korea ranks only 20th in the World Competitiveness Report because it does not conform to current Western perceptions about what makes for a competitive economy. Taiwan is ranked ninth and Japan 13th.

All the Northeast Asian economies are becoming more open, because it is now in their interest to do so. Their companies, once nurtured behind barriers, now need a global marketplace in which their competitiveness can flourish. Their financial systems, likewise, are gradually opening up.

Portfolio managers are presented with even more unrealistic versions of "Asia."

Although they may not follow indices directly, most fund managers are ultimately judged by reference to a cross-country index of some sort. The most widely used in Asia is the MSCI Far East Free ex-Japan index. It currently has a weighting of 33 percent for Hong Kong, 24 percent for Malaysia, 15 percent for Singapore, a mere 4 percent for South Korea and nothing at all for Taiwan.

Other indices are similarly detached from reality.

International Herald Tribune.

Don't Let Priebke Off

On March 24, 1944, SS Captain Erich Priebke and several colleagues rounded up 335 Italian men and boys, took them to the Ardeatine Caves south of Rome and shot them in the backs of their heads. Captain Priebke allegedly checked off the victims' names before the massacre, which was a reprisal for the killing of 33 Nazi soldiers by Italian partisans the day before. Fifty years later he was caught. But last week a botched trial in an Italian court set him free. Italy quickly rearrested him, and must now move to fix this miscarriage of justice or pass him to a nation that will.

Priebke's case is the subject of intense passions in part because punishment of Nazis is so rare. The American Office of Special Investigations has removed 48 alleged Nazi war criminals from the United States in the 15 years it has existed. Only four of them have been tried, two in Germany, one in Yugoslavia and one in Israel. Germany, which has convicted about 7,000 since the late 1950s, is the only country that has made a determined effort to prosecute its own citizens for the murder of foreigners and members of minority groups while the Nazis were in power. Most other countries prosecute only when the killers are foreigners and the victims are not Gypsies or Jews.

After the war, Priebke escaped four times from a British military prison and eventually disappeared. But the Ardeatine massacre, the worst in Italy's Nazi occupation, burned in Italian memory.

In 1994, after Argentina opened its files on Nazi immigration, ABC News found Priebke in Bariloche, where he had been living under his own name for decades. The Argentine government, either newly enlightened about his past or simply newly embarrassed, extradited him to Italy. This year Priebke, who is 83, was brought before an Italian military court.

Last week a three-judge military panel found him guilty of murder, but acquitted him of the aggravating circumstance of exceeding orders. Because the judges found that he was following orders, they placed the murder in a category covered by a 30-year-statute of limitations.

Germany has requested Priebke's extradition. Italy is holding him while it considers the request and an appeal by the Italian prosecutors. They contend that one of the judges, who allegedly argued for Priebke's acquittal before the trial, should have been recused from the case.

Priebke does not deserve to be a free man. Perhaps because military courts tend to treat orders with more reverence than civilians do, the judges misapplied the law about following orders. The Nuremberg Principles state that if a soldier commits a manifestly illegal act while under orders, the judge can lighten the soldier's sentence, but acting under orders does not absolve a soldier of criminal responsibility. It is hard to imagine an act more manifestly illegal than murdering 335 innocent civilians.

The massacre clearly falls in the category of crimes against humanity. Germany can try Priebke on this charge without putting him in double jeopardy. In international law, such crimes have no statute of limitation and may be tried in any nation's courts. Italy may yet retry him, but if it does not, Germany should be given the chance.

— THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Other Comment

Officially, It's English Only

The House of Representatives passed a divisive and unnecessary bill [on Aug. 1] that would declare English the official language of the United States. Its targets are racial and ethnic minorities. Nobody disputes the status of English as the common language of the United States. But if this measure is enacted, those people who speak a language other than English could face serious obstacles in their daily lives. The bill would mandate that *all* U.S. government business be conducted in English with very few exceptions. [It would] prevent citizens with a limited command of English from communicating effectively with their government. Congress should concentrate on promoting greater fluency in English by funding more language instruction.

— Los Angeles Times.

Rebuild Welfare From Scratch

By William Raspberry

WASHINGTON — Is it permitted to utter a hopeful word about the welfare reform bill that President Bill Clinton has reluctantly agreed to sign?

Virtually all the people I call friends are convinced that the legislation is an abomination that will make life tougher for those already struggling for their daily bread, saddle the states with new costs while reducing the federal money available to them, and condemn a million additional children to poverty.

Let me say at the outset that I have a lot of problems with this bill, including the fact that it assumes the availability of jobs that may not exist and makes scant provision for child-care costs for those erstwhile welfare recipients who do manage to find work.

There will be some suffering, no doubt about it. Any legislation that assigns an end point for governmental assistance will cause some suffering on the part of those who don't (or can't) take advantage of the interim. The sheriff's eviction team will leave some families homeless, even if they have known for a full year that eviction was coming.

What we don't know is how many families will read the eviction notice and pay the rent, find a new place, take a new job or double up with friends.

Similarly, we don't know — because it is unknowable in advance — how many present welfare recipients will make serious new efforts toward self-sufficiency as a result of this legislation, or how many prospective recipients will look first to private sources of support, or how many people will, knowing that welfare might not be there for them, change the behavior that might land them in need.

You may not believe that old canard about women having babies in order to get a welfare check, or young girls having babies in order to gain emancipation from their families. But isn't it likely that people, at least, will take greater care not to have more babies than they can care for if there is no assurance that welfare will take care of them?

Isn't it likely that marriage might become a more attractive alternative for young women who know that they will need help caring for their children? Isn't it likely that women will be less likely to become sexually involved with men who are, by reason of idleness or attitude, ineligible as husbands? Isn't it likely that organized religion will take a larger role in providing help (economic as well as spiritual) for society's needy?

And isn't it likely, or at least possible, that the legislation that strikes us as so punitive may help to restore the public dole to what most of us think it ought to be: emergency relief?

None of these outcomes will be universal, of course. Some people will, after their welfare eligibility expires, wind up homeless or worse, their job skills or mental condition being inadequate for gainful employment. But isn't that a problem that is easier to handle after you know the size of it?

Even on the technical side, the end-of-welfare legislation may be less draconian than at first appears. There are some interesting loopholes, including a provision that states (currently 43 out of the 50) which have received federal waivers to run experimental programs may continue to run those programs notwithstanding the new legislation.

In addition, states may not lose as much welfare money as it appears, because they will be free to shift federal money from other categories to pay welfare benefits or to provide for job subsidies or day care.

The overall effect could be very bad, or neutral, or even good, largely depending on whether the governors who run the state programs are bad, average or good.

I agree with those who think that the present legislation goes too far, is based on too many shaky assumptions and will do harm. But more harm than the present welfare system?

What gets lost in the anguished argument is that welfare was broken and we couldn't figure out how to fix it. Isn't it just possible that we might do a better job by tearing the whole thing down and rebuilding it from scratch?

The Washington Post.

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1896: Convention Call

NEW YORK — A national convention has been called to meet at Indianapolis on September 2 to nominate a sound money Democratic candidate for President and Vice-President. No concealment is made of the fact that the prime object is to secure the election of Messrs. McKinley and Hobart. The National Committee has decided that the new branch should be known as "The National Democratic Party of the United States."

1921: Prince Rebuked

BERLIN — The Radical and Republican "Berliner Tageblatt" is annoyed with Prince Henry of Prussia, brother of the ex-Kaiser and formerly commander-in-chief of the German Navy. The prince made himself so conspicuous on the promenade at Norderney, a popular North Sea bathing resort, by talking English in a loud voice, that a patriotic German, judged by his appearance to be an ex-officer of high rank, told him that the least that could be expected from a Hohenzollern in these times was that he should speak German. The prince's answer is not reported.

1946: Potsdam Breach

LONDON — The Foreign Office made public tonight [Aug. 8] a statement sent last week to the governments of the U. S., the Soviet Union and France which called for the economic unity of Germany under the Potsdam agreement and accused Russia of violating the agreement by illegal seizures of German goods and commodities for reparations. The statement inquired if the three powers were "ready to set up immediately the necessary machinery in Germany" to establish economic unity and settle the reparations question.

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OPINION/LETTERS

Dole Must Wrest Control From Party's Extremists

By William Safire

WASHINGTON — Before Bob Dole can take on Bill Clinton, he must first take control of the Republican Party in convention assembled.

His attempt to reach a temperate compromise on abortion with the Buchananites he so decisively defeated in the primaries has failed. The one-issue extremists won't take "Yes, but" for an answer; they demand a convention victory that, as in 1992, would ensure another election defeat.

If you cannot take charge of your convention, you do not deserve to take charge of the country. When an intolerant faction tries to dictate the party platform, it is up to the nominee to make certain that the party's more inclusive rank and file is respected and its views officially recorded. Then Mr. Dole must ringingly dissociate himself from cultural warfare in his acceptance speech.

By calling the Buchanan bluff, he would not only save the party's soul but gain it electoral strength; for every extremist who walks, 10 moderates will come home. But if Mr. Dole were unwilling to lead, the irony would be in the fire: A minority of pro-lifers who cannot abide the word "tolerance" would drag along a reluctant Christian Coalition to again deliver the White House to Mr. Clinton's pro-choice extremists.

Will Mr. Dole, his compromise rejected, meekly submit? My hope that he will not is based on a clue to an internal struggle revealed in his new economic plan. He does not take humiliation kindly.

As Senate leader early this year, Mr. Dole showed lonely courage in going up against the media moguls' lobby. The broadcasters are eager to avoid costly free-enterprise auctions and instead want, as a gift, slices of the spectrum worth what may be $70 billion of the public's airwaves.

No sooner was Mr. Dole out the Senate door than the new majority leader, Trent Lott, in cahoots with the House speaker, Newt Gingrich, reversed Mr. Dole's instruction to the Federal Communications Commission and arranged a whopping giveaway to the media lobby, with President Bill Clinton going along.

But in Mr. Dole's new tax-cut proposal, to offset revenue losses, is his conservative estimate of $34 billion from "spectrum auctions." That serves notice that a President Dole would fight the Media-Political Complex for the public's money.

Senator Lott denies providing welfare to station owners, assuring me that "there will be spectrum auctions in the future," although he doubts that they will generate the amount that Mr. Dole envisions. But Mr. Dole's refusal to go along with the auction-delaying deal is just the sort of break-all-the-china scrap that should be the hallmark of his anti-establishment campaign.

He has also taken on the contingency-fee bar, Mr. Clinton's most lavish contributors, to curb the punitive lawsuits that bankrupt small companies and drive up consumer prices.

Such engagement is the route to upset victory. As campaigners from the Roosevelts to Truman to Nixon proved, you gotta have villains.

Extremists on both ends of the abortion spectrum are villains.

Media plutocrats intimidating politicians to get a lucrative spot on the spectrum for nothing are villains.

Trial lawyers buying White House protection to maintain their stranglehold on the legal system are villains.

And a president who frightens old folks with false tales of "cuts" in their Medicare protection also callously plays the villain.

What running mate can best help the candidate carry the good fight against this fearsome farrago? Mr. Dole ought to have a hard-driving partner who needs no introduction and presents no problem. The names I hear are Senators John McCain and Connie Mack, former Illinois congressman and Defense Secretary Don Rumsfeld and empower-players Bill Bennett and Jack Kemp.

Each is what Richard Nixon used to call "un homme sérieux."

Mr. McCain, a prisoner-of-war hero gaining national stature on defense issues, is a big-tent prolifer, upbeat and attractive on television, and closest to Mr. Dole. His main political drawback is an unexpected candor. But, as Mr. Dole told a friend recently, "You spend five years in a box and you're entitled to speak your mind."

The New York Times.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Selective Sanctions

President Bill Clinton, who is inflicting inhumane economic sanctions on Cubans with the declared purpose of pressuring them into improving human rights, has concluded that economic pressures would not have the same effect in the case of China.

The reason for this apparently illogical set of policies is revealed in this sentence *(Very Briefly, Aug. 1)*: "China will need more than 240 new passenger aircraft in the next five years." The customer is always right.

SAM ABRAMS.
Chania, Greece.

Nationality in Dispute

Regarding "Counterterrorism Assignment: Keep Track of the 'Afghanis'" (Opinion, July 30) and "'Afghani' Clarification" (Letter, Aug. 1) by John Cooley:

Mr. Cooley has wrongly described Ramzi Ahmed Yousef, accused in the bombing of the World Trade Center in New York in 1993, as a Pakistani. In fact, Mr. Yousef is an Iraqi national, as evidenced by the documents found on his person at the time of his arrest in Islamabad last year.

His identity was confirmed with the help of information provided by Interpol. He was then extradited to the United States by the Pakistani authorities to face trial.

M. NOOR SAGHIR KHAN.
Paris.

The writer is press counselor at the Pakistani Embassy in Paris.

John Cooley replies: When Ramzi Ahmed Yousef was arrested in Pakistan and extradited to the United States, U.S. authorities identified him as a Pakistani. Later investigation showed he may have had one Pakistani parent and one Iraqi parent. Like many senior terrorists, he apparently carried different national passports, and had different names and identities. I was once held hostage in Jordan by an Arab group that had European members. All had several passports. It would have been difficult to learn their nationality at birth. Interpol may have done so in Mr. Yousef's case.

On Penmanship

The article on penmanship *("Longing for the Certainty of Old-Fashioned Cursive," Meanwhile, July 23)* brought back memories of Palmer Method writing classes in my western New York state primary school.

These were taught by a tiny, elderly (so we thought) teacher with a strong sense of discipline. Punishment in the form of a knock on the knuckles with a ruler was meted out to pupils who did not sit up straight, have both forearms on the desk or hold their pen (carefully dipped in the inkwell to avoid blots) at the ends of their fingers.

As she walked up and down the aisles, calling out what practice we should be doing, we diligently carried out her "push-pull, round-round oval" command as a warm-up exercise before making gracious capital and small letters. To this day, I resort to these exercises during long, drawn-out meetings, feeling a sense of accomplishment when the results look anything like what our teacher expected of us in those long-gone days.

Unfortunately, the Palmer Method did not necessarily help us develop good penmanship. It was an unnatural way of positioning the arms, took too much desk space and required too much time to form the letters, especially later when we graduated to taking lecture notes.

Mastery of the typewriter helped restore my confidence in being able to communicate clearly through the written word. But still, despite its increasing obsolescence in our electronic world, elegant penmanship always catches my attention and makes me wish I had been able to master that particular practice.

E. M. HARLOFF.
The Hague.

Feeling Fast and Strong After an Olympic Stint

By Charlotte Sector

PARIS — I did not return home from the Olympic Games with a medal, but I'll keep my name badge, my tag and my lapel pins to show my grandchildren.

I'm not so sure about my impeccable but impractical Atlanta skirt. In the interests of fashion, I

MEANWHILE

wore an ankle-length khaki wool garment as part of my official uniform as a volunteer worker at the games. It wasn't a good idea, given the heat and humidity of Atlanta.

Along with my skirt, I received a badge marked "Français," which identified me as a French-language translator. "Hi, Francis!" people said. The job went well, though I confess I couldn't always understand the "Jawjia" accent of some of my fellow Americans.

Once I'd gotten all my accreditation — that in itself was worth a gold medal — the Olympic committee sent me to the hotel where the international Olympic bigwigs were staying. We volunteers fielded every kind of request, some of them not fit for recounting here. One African fellow wanted to meet Bing Crosby. I asked if Bill Cosby would do instead. He seemed to think he would. Just as well, because Mr. Cosby was due to attend that evening's shindig held by the International Olympic Committee.

My Olympic race began several years ago, when I called the Olympic Committee's protocol office to volunteer. To qualify as a translator, I had to speak French — to an answering machine. (A tip: If you're thinking of volunteering for the Sydney games, start applying now.)

I don't have muscles, and I'm not an athlete. But still, I wanted to participate in the games more than just as a tourist or a spectator.

Though American, I grew up in France — I have dual French and American nationality — and had always been intrigued by the American volunteer spirit.

The Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games did a wonderful job at making a small army of volunteers feel welcome. We were even given a card entitling us to all the Coca-Cola we could drink, as well as a public transportation pass. Despite what you may have read about transportation problems in Atlanta, the pass faithfully got us to work and back.

We also received tickets to some of the events. I saw some great tennis and even got to speak to the Spanish player Arantxta Sánchez Vicario's mother. "¡Qué calor!" she exclaimed. "Too hot!" I couldn't have agreed more.

I watched the French women's fencing team win the gold medal against Italy and got to sit with the

Volunteers in Atlanta got to rub shoulders with the famous and watch athletes smoke cigars.

VIPs. I went to the dress rehearsal for the opening ceremonies.

We also experienced some night life. At a bar called Les Halles, where the French athletes went to drink beer and puff cigars. I might have been in any bistro back home.

On the job, we volunteers rubbed shoulders with the great and famous. Desmond Tutu shook my hand. So did Bill Cosby. I peered up at Magic Johnson, who looked almost as tall as the Eiffel Tower. O. J. Simpson was there, but he wasn't speaking to anyone. The elegant Queen of Spain made an appearance. I caught a glimpse of Bill and Hillary Clinton, but only from a distance behind a thicket of security men.

Now that I'm back in Paris and feeding off my memories, I think that I and the other volunteers came away from the Olympic Games with something special.

The Olympic motto — Citius, Altius, Fortius — applies to us all. After our experience, we all feel in some way faster, higher and stronger.

International Herald Tribune.

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INTERNATIONAL

Some Sickle Cell Cases Yield to Marrow Transplants

By Rick Weiss
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — A radical treatment appears to have cured 16 children with sickle cell disease, a debilitating, inherited syndrome affecting 80,000 black Americans that generally has been considered incurable.

But the experimental procedure, in which 22 youngsters received bone marrow transplants from siblings, also killed two patients who might otherwise have lived with the disease for decades.

So far, the treatment is limited to young, seriously ill patients with healthy brothers or sisters. And even for those patients, doctors said, the results raise a difficult ethical question: At what point is it worth risking a child's life in an effort to eliminate the repeated hospitalizations, severe pain and premature death that often, but not always, accompany sickle cell disease?

"This study confirms that sickle cell disease can be cured," said Oswaldo Castro, director of the Center for Sickle Cell Disease at Howard University. It is one of more than a dozen institutions in the United States, Canada and Europe that collaborated in the study, which was published in the latest issue of the New England Journal of Medicine.

"The cure, unfortunately, comes with a price," he continued. "The biggest problem is trying to find out which patients are facing such a severe and lethal course that the risks of treatment look good."

Others cheered the results as a ray of hope for the one in 400 blacks who lives with sickle cell disease, a syndrome that exacts enormous medical, financial and emotional burdens yet receives relatively little public attention. But they emphasized the procedure's current limits.

Approximately 18 percent of people with sickle cell disease have healthy brothers or sisters with a bone marrow type that exactly matches theirs — a requirement for the treatment. And only about one percent of all sickle cell patients meet several other strict criteria that the researchers used to choose patients for the treatment, said Mark Walters, a physician at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle. He led the international study with a colleague at the center, Keith Sullivan.

"The challenge for the future is how we can improve upon this very promising start," Mr. Walters said. Sickle cell disease is caused by a mutation in a gene that makes hemoglobin, the protein in red blood cells that carries oxygen.

The syndrome varies considerably in severity. Some people live long and nearly normal lives, others are plagued by strokes and painful "crises," which resemble heart attacks, in various organs.

On average, 5 percent of affected children die before age 20 and affected adults die in their early 40s.

In 1984, researchers in Europe made the first attempts to cure sickle cell disease with transplants of bone marrow, the tissue that produces blood cells for the body. Although the strategy seemed to work, the newest results offer the first confirmation in a multi-center trial.

Why Some Kids Don't Grow

Reuters

LONDON — Doctors from the Institute of Child Health in London have identified a new syndrome that causes children from harrowing family backgrounds to eat and drink compulsively but still fail to grow normally.

In a paper to be published Friday in the Lancet medical journal, Professor David Skuse and his colleagues described their study of 29 children aged 3 to 13 who were unusually short because of impaired growth.

Blood tests showed the children had low levels of a protein that stimulates growth. But they shared another problem — compulsive overeating, or hyperphagia. All had stressful home lives, and many had been subjected to emotional, physical and sexual abuse.

When they were hospitalized at the institute, however, and contact with the families was limited, the children's condition quickly improved. After a few weeks, even their growth hormone levels began to return to normal.

The researchers have called this new syndrome "hyperphagic short stature." They said 3 percent of short but otherwise physically normal children could suffer from the syndrome.

Lively Debate Kicks Off On 'Fossils' From Mars

NASA Invites Skeptics to Join in Tests

By John Noble Wilford
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — Scientists and space agency officials have invited skeptics among the world's scientists to join them in conducting even more rigorous tests needed to confirm or disprove their findings of life on Mars.

Daniel Goldin, the NASA administrator, said the possibility of Martian life, however primitive, would prompt a thorough review of the U.S. program of exploring the planet. Some of the currently planned 10 robotic missions to Mars might be re-evaluated, he said, and serious thought would be given to speeding up plans for returning a sample of Martian rocks on a robotic mission that had been scheduled for no earlier than 2005.

Asked if the findings might bring more money for the National Space and Aeronautics Administration, Mr. Goldin said science should dictate the scope and design future projects.

"I think exploration is necessary," he said Wednesday, but he cautioned that the agency should not simply say, "Give us money. Let's have a big mission."

At a news conference at the space agency headquarters, the research team explained and vigorously defended their reasons for concluding that a meteorite that fell to Earth from Mars bore strong chemical and possibly fossil evidence of primitive life on Mars several billion years ago, when the planet was warmer and wetter.

They conceded that their evidence was not conclusive but said it certainly pointed to past microbial life processes on Mars as the most reasonable and simplest explanation.

David McKay, a geochemist at the Johnson Space Center in Houston, who directed the research, pointed to four lines of evidence supporting the team's conclusion. These included the detection of an apparently unusual pattern of organic molecules, the carbon compounds that are the basis of life, and also several unusual mineral samples that are known products of primitive microscopic organisms on Earth.

Even more startling, and potentially controversial, was his interpretation of microscopic but distinct black and white circles embedded in the dark rock as being fossils of the Martian microbes themselves. Highly magnified pictures of the tiny circles were shown at the news conference.

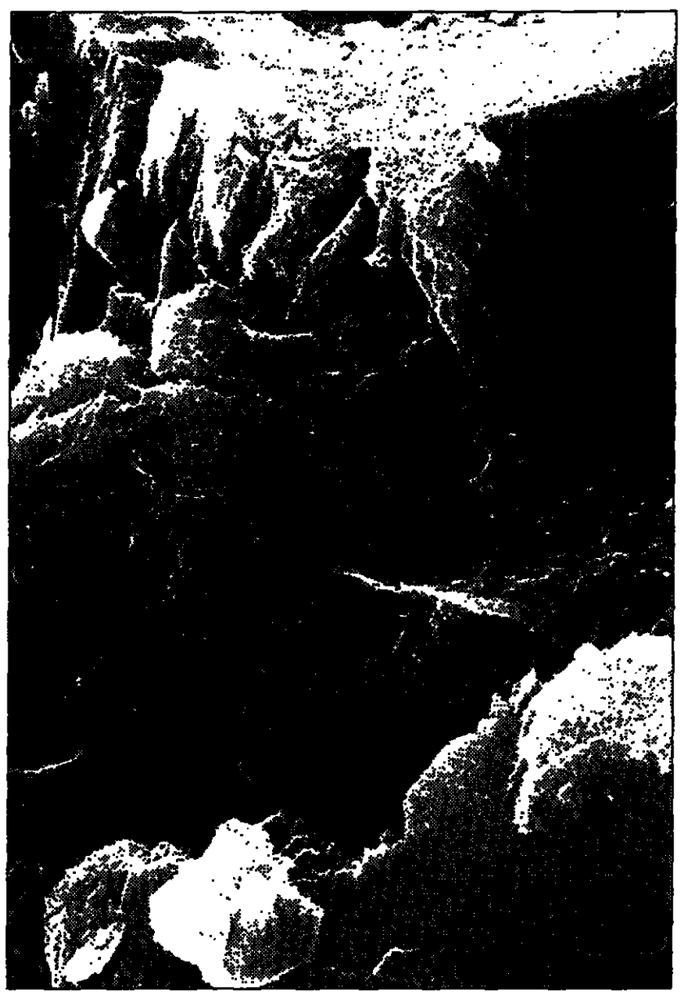
"This is the most controversial part of our conclusions," Mr. McKay said. "But the explanation for these structures that we favor is that these are in fact microfossils from Mars. It's simply an interpretation at this point."

As more scientists learned of the discovery, many advised caution and some were frankly skeptical that the researchers indeed had sufficient evidence to back up their conclusions about life on Mars.

"I personally regard this as a preliminary report," said William Schopf, a paleobiologist at the University of California at Los Angeles. "I think a certain amount of additional work needs to be done before we can be sure that this report is really about life on Mars."

Mr. Schopf recalled that Carl Sagan, the Cornell University astronomer and writer, once said, "Extraordinary claims require extraordinary evidence." Accordingly, he contended that several points of evidence made by the research team fell short of being extraordinary. The organic molecules and certain mineral compounds, he noted, could have been of nonbiological origin.

When asked what it might take to persuade him that the evidence suggested Martian life, Mr. Schopf said he wanted to see a more detailed examination of the purported microfossils to determine if they show the presence of cell walls. He also wanted to see evidence of a "population of organisms," not just a few, and traces suggesting cell division, showing the life cycle of such organisms.



Doug Mills/The Associated Press

David McKay, the NASA geochemist who directed the research, talking about the findings in Washington on Wednesday with the meteorite displayed in front of him. At left, an electron microscope image of its surface. The NASA team has concluded from four separate lines of evidence that some of the structures in the meteorite are microfossils.

Reuters

RUSSIA: *Chechen Says Assault Was Meant to Embarrass Yeltsin on Eve of Inaugural*

Continued from Page 1

sion news shows, the Kremlin quietly scaled down its more ambitious plans for Mr. Yeltsin's triumphal swearing-in.

Perhaps in deference to Mr. Yeltsin's fragile health, the ceremony that was originally designed to last an hour was cut to 30 minutes. Mr. Yeltsin, who suffers from heart disease and was hospitalized twice last year, retired to his dacha after the election and has not made a public appearance since June 26. He returned to work at the Kremlin on Tuesday, but has been shown only fleetingly on Russian television.

This week's fierce battle in the capital followed weeks of Russian attacks on rebel-held villages, violence that spread after a truce negotiated in late May between Mr. Yeltsin and the rebel leader Zelimkan Yandarbiyev collapsed.

Russian troops backed by helicopter gunships and fighter jets pounded Chechen rebel positions in Grozny in an effort to push them out of the city Moscow bombed and shelled into submission 19 months ago.

Mr. Yeltsin's envoy in Chechnya, Deputy Prime Minister Oleg Lobov, said in Moscow that Russian troops were gradually pushing rebels out and that "the situation is under control." Moscow denied a Chechen claim that rebel troops had shot down a Russian jet fighter Thursday.

But as of Thursday afternoon, Russian journalists pinned down in a government complex in the center of the city reported that the rebels still controlled the midtown area, and that Russian troops had failed to force their way through to troops under siege in the center of town.

Duku Zavgayev, the Moscow-appointed leader of Chechnya, fled Grozny on Thursday and returned to his apartment in Moscow, refusing to comment on the recent reversal of force.

The privately owned network NTV said Friday that rebels remained in control of some areas of Grozny, but not the entire city. Camera crews showed images of masked Chechen rebels slouching in buildings under their control, and Russian soldiers firing machine guns on the outskirts of town.

Casualty figures differed sharply, with both sides claiming to have killed hundreds of enemy fighters. With shelling and gunfire still resounding around the city Thursday evening, it was impossible to estimate the number of dead and wounded.

With no telephone communication from Grozny, accounts of the fighting and devastation were few and sketchy. In Thursday's edition of Segodnaya, a reporter in Moscow cited reports from journalists in Grozny that bodies of soldiers and civilians were left lying on the streets, bloated by a scorching August heatwave.

The national security adviser, Alexander Lebed, has indefinitely postponed plans to travel to Chechnya.

UN: *Trip Is Questioned*

Continued from Page 1

this as a "dubious explanation, because Mr. Fall was going to meet all the African leaders at the OAU summit in Yaounde anyway."

According to other UN sources, the standard procedure would have been for the High Commissioner for Human Rights, not the secretary-general, to assign a human-rights mission to Mr. Fall, a Senegalese who holds the rank of assistant secretary-general.

But it is not uncommon for the secretary-general to bypass the UN hierarchy and select a personal envoy for missions of his own choosing.

A spokesman at the U.S. permanent mission to the United Nations in Geneva acknowledged that it had been informed of the matter and was looking into it. A European Union diplomat said, "We're happy to let the Americans handle this."

Last month, U.S. officials charged that UN personnel and resources were being enlisted to drum up support for Mr. Boutros Ghali's re-election. Under UN rules a secretary-general cannot use his employees, much less UN funds, for personal politicking. Mr. Boutros Ghali has rejected charges of wrongdoing.

While saying that he has served "with dignity," the Clinton administration contends that the United Nations needs "new and strong management" and has threatened to use its veto if Mr. Boutros Ghali seeks a second term.

An earlier U.S. offer to extend his mandate for a year during a search for a successor was rejected by Mr. Boutros Ghali and has since been withdrawn.

IRAQ: *Saddam Accuses the West of a Plot*

Continued from Page 1

the living conditions of the Iraqi people by "replacing miserable houses built of mud and reed, and tin houses, tents and other shelters set under trees."

Mr. Saddam said foreign powers were behind the 1980-88 war with Iran. Their aim, he said, was to "destroy Iraq's potentials and achievements."

When that plot failed, the United States and its allies "created a new conflict," he said, referring to the 1991 Gulf War that liberated Kuwait from a seven-month Iraqi military occupation.

The Iraqi leader said that because both wars "failed to undermine Saddam and his people's resolve, Iraq's enemies have had to reshuffle their cards and use a host of lies and deceitful allegations against the Iraqi leadership, which is the symbol of Iraq."

Diplomats say another symbol of Iraq — oil — is not likely to actually start flowing for a month or more as technical details of the UN plan are worked out.

But Middle East oil-producing states were confident that the return of Iraq to world markets for the first time in six years would not dent their market share, industry sources said Thursday. "All in all, the market can take the oil. Prices are resilient," an official in the Gulf said.

Oil for September delivery on the New York Mercantile Exchange, an industry benchmark, closed at $21.67 a barrel, up 25 cents.

(AP, Reuters, Bloomberg)

The Associated Press

Mr. Saddam accusing his Western adversaries Thursday of trying to bring down his government.

Rabbits on the Runway: Roissy a Big Hareport

By Craig R. Whitney
New York Times Service

ROISSY, France — Charles de Gaulle Airport in this township just northeast of Paris handles 30 million passengers a year. About 45,000 people work at the airport, servicing and refueling planes, processing passengers on 1,000 flights a day, and loading cargo and baggage.

The airport's staff is outnumbered by its rabbits — as many as 50,000 of them, according to Jean Valissant, one of the two full-time gamekeepers the airport employs to try to keep from being completely overrun.

"It's a rabbit paradise," Mr. Valissant admitted the other day on a tour of the animals' domain — 2,000 hectares (5,000 acres) of fenced-in short grass and cornfields lining the airport's two main runways. Electronic scarecrows emit noises to keep birds away from planes on takeoff and final approach and, incidentally, from preying on rabbits.

That leaves the burden of rabbit population control to foxes.

Maitre Renard is clearly not up to the job. Roissy rabbits nest right up against the main terminal buildings and burrow brazenly next to the runways, apparently aware by now that the big metal birds roaring past will never swoop down on them.

There are other solutions, one of which is to try to turn as many bunnies as possible into *civet de lapin*. So, this fall, the airport will resume rabbit hunts for selected guests with hunting licenses, but only in safely distant reaches of the grounds.

"The rabbits are quite healthy," said Joel Genty, the airport's environmental supervisor. "They eat very well here and their meat doesn't taste like jet fuel or anything like that."

But even the hunts are not enough. "If they burrow too close to a runway or a taxiway, they can undermine it and start a process of erosion that can lead to collapse," said Mr. Valissant, who added that they can also nibble holes in cables to landing lights. So, from time to time, he and his colleague call on the services of a ferreter to come and literally ferret the animals out of their burrows.

But it is still mostly a lost cause. "We took 3,755 rabbits last year with nets and ferrets," he said. "But if you come out here at 8 in the morning you'll see up to a thousand of them hopping around everywhere you look."

He dodged between taxiing planes in a yellow-and-white airport patrol car toward one of the far runways. Fat rabbits nibbled placidly as a Japan Air Lines Boeing 747 came in for a landing. "They're getting too close again," he said. "Look at these ridges here — they look like a big piece of Gruyere." The airport started becoming one big rabbit warren, Mr. Valissant believes, when the farmland and pastures taken over in the early 1970s were fenced in to keep out humans, the main menace from a rabbit's point of view.

Despite similar problems at Orly Airport, the other Paris airport, the authorities say they have not considered waging germ or chemical warfare.

Introducing infectious myxomatosis, a viral disease fatal to rabbits, carries too many risks, Mr. Genty said. Contraceptive chemicals sprayed on the grass they eat would not be acceptable unless the chemicals worked only on rabbits and not other animals farther up the food chain. "Until they find a rabbit-specific pill," he said, "we won't use it."

So peaceful co-existence seems likely to remain the order of the day. So far, no plane has had to abort a landing or a takeoff because of rabbits on the runway, Mr. Genty said, and occasional collisions with birds remain a more serious problem.

"We're located on the eastern edge of a migratory path for ducks, geese and pigeons," he said, "and we have 11 people who do nothing but try to keep them confined to areas away from the runways. The day a rabbit can jump 400 feet in the air, we'll get more serious about them."

PARTY: *A Platform That Sounds Right*

Continued from Page 1

full and it's an appendix to the platform," said Governor William F. Weld of Massachusetts, a leader of the moderates.

The idea was also fine with leaders on the party's right, partly because they had won so many other concessions.

"The Dole campaign is very much guided by polls," Bay Buchanan said. "They started to poll these issues. I believe they recognized these issues to be good issues, solid issues."

Included in the platform were:

- A commitment to oppose subordination of American "sovereignty to any international authority," including the commitment of U.S. troops "to UN 'peacekeeping' operations under foreign commanders . . . We will not permit any international court to seize, try or punish American citizens."
- A single paragraph that opposed same-sex marriages, quotas and preferences under affirmative action, and that endorsed both national legislation and a California initiative to bar racial and gender preferences.
- Support for appointment of federal judges who not only "respect traditional family values," but respect "the sanctity of human life," shorthand for opposing abortion.
- A declaration that "illegal aliens should not receive public benefits other than emergency aid, and those who become parents while illegally in the United States should not be qualified to claim benefits for their offspring."
- A commitment to abolish the Department of Education, repeal the Goals 2000 education program and oppose all "federal attempts to impose outcome or performance-based education on local schools."
- In addition, the platform declares that "we support educational initiatives to promote chastity until marriage as the expected standard of behavior."
- Republicans "will defend the right of families" to choose for their children the "option of home schooling."

Phyllis Schlafly, head of the conservative Eagle Forum, a leader of the anti-abortion forces and a supporter of Mr. Buchanan's during the primaries, was enthusiastic about the platform.

"I'm very happy with the document," she said.

هكذا من الأصل

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TOMORROW: MONEY

Leisure

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DINING

Classic Bistro With Whimsy

By Patricia Wells
International Herald Tribune

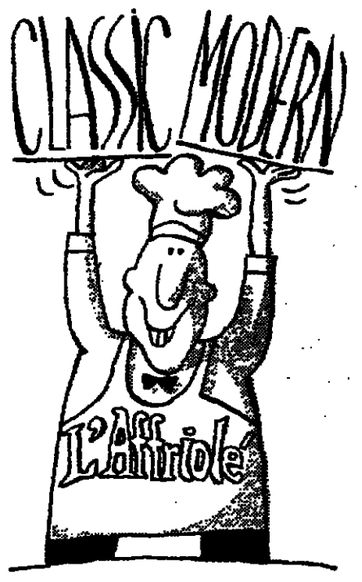
PARIS — The French always have a word for it. To tempt, to seduce, to charm. Of course, *affrioler*. In the 15th century, the word *friolet* translated as gourmand, and in this day and age the brand new bistro L'Affriolé is sure to seduce gourmands of all ages.

Just two months ago Véronique and Alain Atibard opened this jewel of a spot just steps from the Seine. Right from the outset, you know you're in for a treat: The spanking clean exterior, the 1930s bistro front, the sign advertising *cuisine traditionelle* and the crisp red-and-white checked curtains tug at the heartstrings of every romantic Parisian. Inside, the soft brown moleskin banquettes, Art Deco chandeliers, straight-backed bistro chairs and smiling waiters in traditional black vests shout bistro with a capital B.

Look a little deeper, and you spy suggestions of modernity and whimsy. A glass champagne bucket is filled with crystal clear water and a single, swimming goldfish. Fresh flowers are replaced by a single pot of an artichoke in full, glorious flower. A glance at the menu and you know you're straddling the line between classic and modern.

Following the formula that has brought success to many new Paris bistros in the past two or three years, the 35-year-old Alain Atibard keeps the menu short and sweet, with a changing menu suggesting the day's dozen or so offerings. The bargain 180-franc ($36) menu includes first course, main course, cheese and dessert. With a wine list featuring at least 10 decent wines at less than 125 francs a bottle, a couple can have a high old time on less than 500 francs.

Everything this well-trained chef offers is not manna from heaven, yet several recent meals suggest he will be heard from in years to come. Atibard's food is varied, to the point, generally well-seasoned and original without being far-fetched. He seems out to please the customer as much as himself and



Nicolas Asfouri/IHT

has learned with the masters, including Alain Dutournier and Alain Senderens.

The best of several starters include a textbook lobster salad, with the elegant crustacean cooked to moist perfection and paired with a well-seasoned salad of finely chopped carrots and endive, and a *tartare de dorade* I wish I had made: precise cubes of fresh, raw porgy are tossed with tomatoes, herbs and an excellent vinaigrette, served with a chiffonnade of finely chopped cabbage seasoned with a lemony dressing. Equally good are the fresh marinated sardines seasoned with herbs, and a bright, summery gravlax of salmon served with cabbage chiffonnade.

The main course of roast salmon arrived hot and sizzling, and flaked into moist chunks just as it should, while the accompanying tangle of Swiss chard, or *blette*, was tossed with just the right amount of rich salted butter. Equally satisfying was his simple roast chicken, served on a bed of cubed, sautéed potatoes.

Some of his dishes lacked seasoning and purpose, such as a very dry and underseasoned *colin rôti*, or roasted hake wrapped in bacon, and a lackluster main course of veal *tendrons*, which arrived barely warm and void of seasoning.

EACH day L'Affriolé offers two or three different cheeses with a proper accompaniment, such as a slice of rich *brebis des Pyrénées* (firm sheep's milk cheese) with a brilliant and traditional touch of cherry confiture alongside. The salty blue cheese, *fourme d'Ambert*, is paired with a thin slice of apple, a simple marriage that is made in heaven; and the delicate disk of Rocamadour goat cheese arrives escorted by a finely dressed green salad.

Desserts could use a bit more attention: On one evening the *tarte à la reine-claude*, or greengage plum tart, arrived dry and without flavor, as did the imaginative but dry *bonbon d'abricots*, or fresh apricots wrapped in phyllo dough. A touch of raspberry sauce would have done wonders for both.

Chef Atibard of course wins my heart with his warm slices of crispy homemade country-style bread, and such wines as Jean-Maurice Raffault's rich and racy Chinon (1995 at 110 francs), the powerful and berry-filled Château Lancyre Pic-Sur-Loup from the Languedoc (1993 at 135 francs) and Ludovic Cornillon's bargain Côteaux de Tricastin (1992 at 72 francs) serve to flatter a cuisine that merits a visit.

L'Affriolé, 17 Rue Malar, Paris 7: tel: 44.18.31.33. Closed Saturday lunch and Sunday. 180-franc menu, including service but not wine. No credit cards.

Lordly Living, for a Lordly Sum, at Cliveden

By John Darnton
New York Times Service

CLIVEDEN, England — Approaching Cliveden can be daunting. You drive past the greenery of forest and fields and skirt the voluptuous Fountain of Love with its marble damsels and cherubs cavorting around a giant scallop shell. Finally, you enter the lime-tree-lined drive, as ramrod-straight as the Champs-Elysées, with a bed of washed gravel that leads noisily to the entrance columns of the rectangular, three-story Italianate pile.

If it happens to be dusk, the yellow lights within gleam, making the manor look both cozy and grand, inviting but also somewhat intimidating, much as it might have appeared to a late arrival during a ball given by the Duke of Buckingham, the Earl of Orkney, the Prince of Wales or any of the other nobles who called it home at various times in the past three centuries.

At Cliveden (the name is pronounced to rhyme with "lived in"), it's important to remember that you are a "house guest." At least that's what written on the directional signs, which shy away from any suggestion that you are headed for a hotel.

My family — my wife, one of my two daughters, my son and myself — decided to put Cliveden's hospitality to the test and travel the 25 miles or so west from London to Buckinghamshire. We even brought along the dog, a cocker spaniel.

ILLUSION OF GUESTHOOD The illusion of guesthood was carried forward by the "footman" in tails who came to take away my car. To register, I was guided into the imposing wood-paneled Great Hall, the central chamber linking the manor's main rooms, and seated at a writing desk that used to belong to Lord Astor. A few minutes later we were ensconced in the Vanderbilt suite, a spacious arrangement of two adjoining rooms, foyer and large bathroom with his and hers washbasins. The furniture was comfortable — mahogany tables, sofas and chairs in pastels and chintz. A housekeeper knocked and offered to help us unpack. By now I'm thinking that friends like this are hard to find.

It's all part of the studied graciousness that makes Cliveden one of the most splendid places to stay in England. With 37 suites and rooms and a staff of 146 (yes, that works out to four per room), the hotel has climbed to the top of the ratings in 10 years. Needless to say, it also leads in price, with rates ranging from $356 for the smallest room to an unbelievable $1,110 for the Lady Astor suite. The suite is named after Nancy Astor, the American millionairess who moved here after marrying the second William Waldorf Astor.

AVOIDING THE H WORD

Senior management goes to great lengths to avoid the H word. "We opened as a house that took in paying guests in March 1986," recalled Stuart Johnson, director and general manager. "We are a stately home that has become a five-star establishment. We have guests. We don't have clients."

Other guests during our stay were an assortment of monied Europeans, the odd American couple back for a second or third visit and young newlyweds. Cliveden is proud that British guests make up over 65 percent of its clientele. This makes it more attractive to Americans, since it contributes to the British "country weekend" atmosphere it is striving to create.

They are also welcomed, it must be admitted, for what they pay. And with horseback riding and all manner of sports, tea served while cruising on the Thames, and a spa offering everything from massages to seaweed body wrap and reflexology, the charges mount like autumn leaves. No wonder one guest wrote in the visitor's book: "Cliveden changed my life. After just one weekend here I decided to get very rich."

The mansion was built by the Duke of Sutherland in 1850 after its predecessor was destroyed by fire. The architect was Charles Barry, who was also co-designer of the Houses of Parliament. It is the third house on the site. It is owned by the National Trust, which received the estate as a gift from the Astors in 1942 and which leases the villa to a private corporation to run as a hotel. This means that the 376 acres of woodland and formal gardens, dotted with grottoes, statuary and sarcophagi, are open to the public for much of the day, but reserved exclusively for paying guests in the early morning and late afternoon (there are tours of the house itself twice a week April to October). If you've ever wanted to test the maxim "living well is the best revenge," then order an English breakfast in the Terrace dining room whose six enormous windows overlook the spectacular triangular box hedge with cat mint in the interior. The beautifully paneled Waldo's, which won a star from Michelin, is the hotel's culinary showplace. We dug into the Cornish crab with lime pimentos and potato and chive salad and the filet of beef with smoked foie gras, girolles and *artichauts poivrade*. For dessert, we recommend the hot apricot soufflé and wild strawberry ice cream. In spring the hotel puts on a special six-course truffle menu.

There is a special canine menu: noisettes of "chunky" in sauce aromatique, delice de Pal on a bed of Winalote, and Trio of Lights, Spleen and Lungs. But we decided not to order any of it for Daisy. We didn't want to spoil her.

Most spectacular of all, in terms of furnishings, is the French Dining Room, available for private parties, which contains some of the finest French gilded paneling in Britain. It comes from Madame de Pompadour's dining room at the Château d'Asnières just outside Paris. William Waldorf spotted it there, bought it and had it reassembled.

REPLICATING the way of life of some of those who stayed in this glorious estate may not be a good idea. From its inception, scandal has been an uninvited guest at Cliveden. It was built as a hunting lodge by the Second Duke of Buckingham in 1666 for entertaining his mistress, the Countess of Shrewsbury. He killed her husband in a duel, was eventually dropped by King Charles II and died penniless.

After passing through the hands of two other dukes, Cliveden was bought by the Astors in 1893 and extensively refurbished. In the 1930s, however, Cliveden became notorious as a reputed center of pro-German sentiment. But Cliveden's true notoriety came in the 1960s. It began on a hot July weekend in 1961 when a house guest of the Astors, Secretary of State for War John Profumo, wandered out by the swimming pool in his dinner jacket and met a naked Christine Keeler whooping it up with her companion, a society osteopath named Stephen Ward. Profumo's affair with Keeler, who was also involved with a Soviet spy called Yevgeny Ivanov, led to his ignominious resignation and contributed to the downfall of Prime Minister Harold Macmillan and Labor's victory the following year, in 1964.

The illusion that you are a guest — and that friendship and its glories can't be bought — lasts up until the bill is presented.

Jonathan Player for The New York Times

A carved staircase rises from the Great Hall of Cliveden, which was built in 1850.

In Search of the Spartans, From the Past to Today

By Benedict Nightingale

SPARTA, Greece — For many Englishmen of my background, Sparta isn't merely the city that defeated Athens in the Peloponnesian War 2,400 years ago. It is a living memory. We, too, were separated from our mothers at age seven and dispatched to austere academies to be trained to be men or, rather, Men. We, too, were placed in the charge of bullying prefects, made to play ferocious games and fed the counterpart of the food that provoked an ancient Athenian wit to remark that he knew why Spartans were eager to die in battle. That way, they could escape the black soup their cooks made from pigs' blood.

Yet Sparta 1996 is a cathartic place to visit, and most unlikely to reactivate any childhood traumas. It is a sedate city that stands on a vast, lush plain below the jagged peaks of the Taygetus Mountains. Strolling along the wide boulevards, with orange trees separating the traffic lanes, or settling down in the town square to sip ouzo and enjoy the view, who would guess that the foothills to the west are where the ancient Spartans left their weaker infants to die?

Persistent invasions and social convulsions scattered the grim, bellicose people who so impressed and alarmed their fellow Greeks. And anyone who wishes to search for the Spartans and their legacy should venture farther afield; south to the Mani, the arid peninsula to which many of the original citizens fled 1,600 years ago; to Gytheion, the ancient town's port, and above all to Mistra, the spectacular ghost town that only a few centuries ago was believed to be Sparta itself.

BYZANTINE CHURCHES

Although the "Florence of the East," as Mistra was once called, is deserted now by all but a few nuns, its Byzantine churches have earned the place three stars in the Michelin Guide to Greece. Mistra is only three miles west of contemporary Sparta, so I took a room at the Hotel Menelaion, an imposing edifice in the center of Paleologou, Sparta's main street. I spent three nights in a room : with comfy if simple furniture, television, bath, even a swimming pool downstairs. From the hotel I could look out on buses arriving from Athens, taxis leaving for Mistra and some of the neo-classical buildings that have survived to make Sparta a mix of the stately 19th century and the drab modern it is today.

The real Menelaus was King of Sparta when Paris came to lure his wife, Helen, across the Aegean to Troy, causing the greatest of all archaic wars. After it had been won, and Helen brought home, Odysseus's son Telemachus went to Sparta, seeking help against the suitors who were persecuting his mother, Penelope. Nobody knows where this took place, but the Spartans built a shrine to Helen on a ridge, and visitors can stand on the clump of stone that may be the foundations of Helen's temple and imagine her yearning for the fleshpots of Troy.

The Menelaion, as the shrine is called, is a couple of miles southeast of the modern city. The remnants of classical Sparta are immediately to the north. Farther on, through olive groves, are fragments of temple, broken columns and, above them, the modest hill that was the city's acropolis. There's also a theater cut into the hillside; but that wasn't built until Hellenic times, when Spartan power had ended. In its sixth- and fifth-century heyday the city became the place whose iron discipline would appeal to men as diverse as Plato, Napoleon and Kurt Hahn, founder of Gordonstoun, the Scottish public school where the present Duke of Edinburgh and Prince of Wales were educated.

OUTNUMBERED BY SLAVES Why did Sparta go to such extremes? Because its 8,000-odd male citizens were vastly outnumbered by the Helots, or slaves, who toiled in the surrounding country. To keep this restless underclass intimidated, they actually declared war on them once a year, sending young men out to live like guerrillas in the hills around Mistra and kill any Helots they saw.

Sparta, not the individual, was what mattered. Other Greeks marveled at the way the relatives of Spartan men who had died in war looked joyous, while the wives and children of those who returned seemed depressed. If a man returned from battle intact, he might be ostracized, even punished if he were seen smiling.

Musing on such matters as I meandered through the ruins, I had to admit that, no, my own background was not so severe. All the same, what a relief to leap across the centuries to civilized Mistra. The city twists and spirals up one of the Taygetus's steeper foothills to the remains of a castle 2,070 feet high. This was built by the Frankish conqueror William of Villehardouin, Prince of Achaia, in 1249, and offers a marvelous view of Sparta and beyond.

When the Greeks took over Mistra in 1262, the last of the Spartans moved there, abandoning their original site, and began to create a city that was eventually home to 40,000 people and the jewel of the Peloponnesus. I could see why as I looked down on those elaborate clusters of red-tiled domes, roofs and arches and the sometimes rounded, sometimes exotically angled walls that, in the case of the Peribleptos Monastery, actually sprout from Mistra's rock face.

Mistra was once second in importance only to Constantinople in the Byzantine Empire. Constantine II, who was to lose his capital to the Turks in 1453, was actually crowned there. Turkish occupation lessened the city's significance. Albanian attacks reduced its size, and, after a Muslim army took devastating reprisals for the citizens' participation in the Greek war of independence, Mistra was finished. What was left of its population moved to resurgent Sparta, where there's little of serious interest except a smallish museum, so I drove on south to Gytheion. Strolling past the pleasantly shabby 19th-century buildings lining the harbor I could imagine the Athenians coming to set fire to Spartan ships, or Spartan troops returning to retake the town.

CONTINUING south, I entered the Mani, dividing 10 days between Lela's Taverna in the seaside village of Kardamili in the north, and the Vathia Tower Hotel in Vathia, a cluster of mostly abandoned stone buildings on a hill in the extreme south.

The Mani hangs like a long, gnarled thumb above the surrounding sea, a stark, mountainous region whose 155 square miles contain scores of tiny villages, many of them high, hard to reach and pretty much deserted. Maniote men still trudge the arid fields and still claim descent from the desperate people who fled ancient Sparta and Gytheion when Alaric's Visigoths and, later, Slav warlords came to conquer and pillage.

This legend makes sense, for two reasons. First, Sparta's holiest place was at the tip of the peninsula, Cape Matapan, a temple of Poseidon with an oracle nearby. And the Maniotes have been identified with the Spartans because of their fierce independence and history of violence. This is the only part of Greece never subdued by any invader, even the Turks.

The Mani's greatest general, Petroby Mavromichalis, or Black Michael, struck the very first blows against the Turks in the war of independence, but later proved so unruly that he was imprisoned by the leader of the new Greek state, who was then himself assassinated by Mavromichalis's nephews. Black Michael called himself a Spartan. His people were addressed as "worthy Spartans" by Napoleon when, some years earlier, he sent ambassadors to the Mani. The spirit of the ancient city was not dead; it had merely moved on.

Benedict Nightingale, the chief drama critic of The Times of London, wrote this for The New York Times.

Robert Harding Picture Library

Ruins of a Hellenic theater in Sparta, built when Spartan power had come to an end.

LEISURE

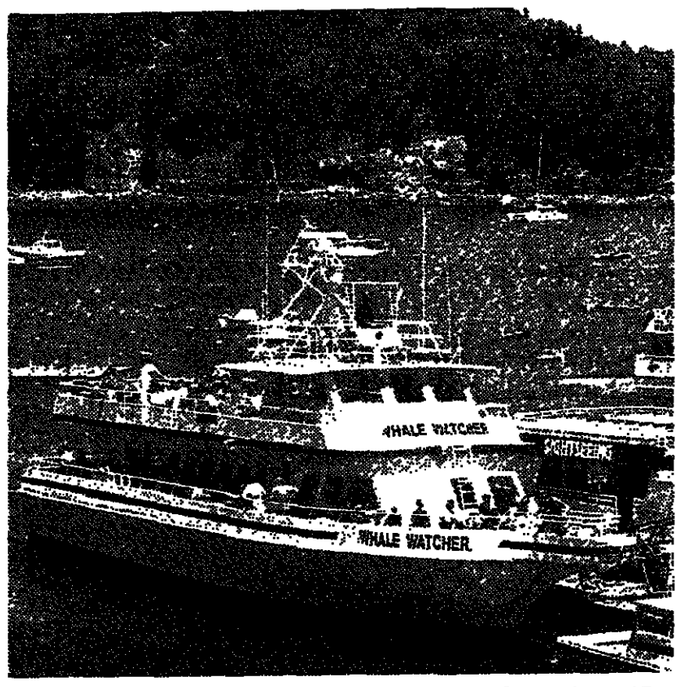
The Charms of a Maine Island

By Wayne Curtis

MOUNT DESERT, Maine — When a guest ordered a strawberry daiquiri at the century-old Claremont Hotel recently, the bartender did something so simple it was downright startling: He retrieved fresh strawberries from the refrigerator, then gently washed and stemmed them by hand before dropping them into the blender.

Mount Desert Island, along the Maine coast about 36 miles (60 kilometers) southeast of Bangor, is a place of small gestures and simple charms. It's been that way since the mid-19th century, when Thomas Cole and Frederick Church prowled the island for landscapes to paint and brought back images of a restless sea against a backdrop of rugged mountains. Attracted by that craggy grandeur, affluent urbanites soon followed, building oceanside mansions and remarkable mountain paths.

Today the most dramatic terrain is preserved within the borders of Acadia National Park, which makes up nearly half the island. Within the park are extraordinary oceanside drives, challenging hiking trails, peaceful carriage roads and two National Parks Service campgrounds, all of which offer access to sea, spruce and granite landscapes that have been largely unchanged since Cole and Church painted them.



Kip Brundage for The New York Times

Whale-watching and nature-cruise boats in picturesque Bar Harbor.

POCKETS OF TRANQUILITY

Which isn't to say that the island has gone untouched by the present century. The park gets some 3 million visitors each summer, trespassing rather heavily on the serenity of the place. Bar Harbor, the commercial center, has more than its share of shops selling lobster key chains and puffin T-shirts. In August, sidewalks can be obstacle courses.

But pockets of tranquillity are never far from the crush — in the island's smaller towns, like Northeast Harbor and picturesque Bass Harbor; on a ferry to an offshore island; or, most simply, on a trip into the woods by foot or bike.

The sunrise from Cadillac Mountain, the island's highest peak at 1,530 feet (466 meters) and reachable by car, ranks among the most popular sights on Mount Desert, but various other pursuits take place at more civilized hours.

Visitors can put the island into its coastal context with a glider flight above the granite hills. Flights are offered daily from the Hancock County-Bar Harbor Airport for up to two passengers at a time. The ride lasts about 20 minutes and costs $80 for two; (207) 667-7627.

The 20-mile Park Loop Road is Acadia National Park's equivalent of Yellowstone's Old Faithful — the centerpiece that draws teeming crowds. The loop is worth at least two trips: once for the sheer exhilaration of the changing vistas from the swooping road, and again to stop and explore attractions like Sand Beach and Thunder Hole, an oceanside cavern that explodes concussively when the waves wash in. A weeklong pass costs $5 a vehicle.

Mount Desert also has some 120 miles of hiking trails. Expect great views and sunny rock ledges fringed with blueberry and juniper bushes.

THE premier view of Somes Sound and the islands to the south is from atop Acadia Mountain on the island's west side. The loop hike is about 2.5 miles, with the steep ascent and descent linked by a broad, open summit. Among the most impressive island trails for sheer bravado are the Ladder Trail up the east side of Dorr Mountain and the Beehive Trail near Sand Beach.

When John D. Rockefeller Jr. wanted a place to take his horses after noisy automobiles invaded the island, he built a 57-mile network of graceful carriage trails. The route has been extensively restored and is ideal for cruising by mountain bike. Bar Harbor Bicycle Shop, (207) 288-3886, rents mountain bikes with locks and helmets for $14 a day.

The remote and rural Swans Island is accessible by ferry from Bass Harbor. It's a $9 round trip; mountain bikes may be reserved in advance for touring the island at $16 a day, (207) 288-9605. Ferries leave Northeast Harbor for the tiny Cranberry Isles, where you can stop by the quirky Isleford Historical Museum. Contact Beal and Bunker, (207) 244-3575, or Isleford Ferry, (207) 276-3717, for ferry schedules.

Also in Northeast Harbor are the exceptional Thuya Gardens, (207) 276-5130, a semiformal perennial garden designed by Charles K. Savage on a secluded forested hillside.

PLACES TO STAY The Claremont, (800) 244-5036, fax (207) 244-3512, overlooking Somes Sound in Southwest Harbor, has been taking in guests since 1884. About half of the 24 rooms in the main building offer exceptional water views. High season rates are $192 double, including breakfast and dinner.

The comfortable Acadia Hotel, (207) 288-5721, was built in 1884 across from the village green. Peak season rates, with breakfast, are $79 to $95 for two.

Five miles northwest of Bar Harbor is the Colony, (207) 288-3383, a classic motor court with 55 white cottages. It's well situated across from the cove, and rooms are $50 to $90 for two.

The Balance Rock Inn in Bar Harbor, (207) 288-2610, fax (207) 288-5534, occupies one of the island's grand shingled cottages, built at the water's edge in 1903. High-season doubles: $195 to $425 including breakfast.

Wayne Curtis is the author of "Maine: Off the Beaten Path" (Globe Pequot Press). He wrote this for The New York Times.

Vital Statistics

POPULATION (1991 estimate)	
(year round)	
Bar Harbor	2,500
Mt. Desert Island	8,900
WEATHER IN AUGUST	
High	77°
Low	56°
Days with rain	10
HOTEL	
Room for two with tax	$90.00
DINNER FOR ONE	
With tax and tip but not drinks	$20.00
TAXI	
From Hancock County-Bar Harbor airport	$15.00
CAR RENTAL FOR A DAY	
Midsized car with unlimited free mileage	$56.00

All figures except population and taxi fares are averages.

Sources: Bar Harbor Chamber of Commerce, Northeast Regional Climate Center, local businesses

The New York Times

MOVIE GUIDE

MATILDA

Directed by Danny DeVito. U.S.

The trick with adapting the dark work of novelist Roald Dahl (as successfully done in "James and the Giant Peach") is to be understated, so that the author's biting, surgical subtext cuts through like a scalpel. But "Matilda," director Danny DeVito's overblown, Americanized adaptation of the British children's book, makes its points with a relentless cudgel. Between the movie's frenetic bursts of energy, however, there's more than enough to enjoy, assuming you're not a Dahl purist. The best thing about the movie is the actress Mara Wilson. Matilda, a girl of extraordinary talent and sensitivity, has the misfortune to be the daughter of a crass, oafish car salesman, Harry Wormwood (De Vito), and his tacky, tartish wife, Zinnia (Rhea Perlman). The Wormwoods pay no attention to Matilda's abilities. It's only after Matilda's repeated requests that they send the precocious 6-year-old to Crunchem Hall, a Draconian institution. Matilda takes solace in her first-grade teacher, Miss Honey (Embeth Davidtz), who immediately realizes the girl's genius. Matilda and Miss Honey form a bond and along the way, Matilda discovers she has the telekinetic power to send objects flying. More discerning fans of Dahl are likely to be appalled at the moving around of key scenes.

(Desson Howe, WP)

EMMA

Directed by Douglas McGrath. U.S.

The posthumous queen of genteel cinema is still on a roll. Jane Austen remains a hot ticket with the arrival of "Emma," another decorative comedy of 19th-century manners honed to a sharply 20th-century edge. With anachronistic snap bordering on irreverence, Douglas McGrath's agile first feature manages to be nearly as savvy as "Clueless," the deliriously pop version of this story. Just as that film did, "Emma" turns the role of Austen's best-loved busybody into a showcase for a show-stopping young star. Gwyneth Paltrow makes a resplendent Emma, gliding through the film with an elegance and patrician wit that bring the young Katharine Hepburn to mind. This Emma is the centerpiece of a broadly amusing film in which characters expound earnestly about the merits of celery root or the horrors of having a sore throat. In the midst of such stupefying refinement, a demure schemer like Emma can affect a pose of pampered idleness while vigorously working her wiles. Though "Emma," like the film version of "Sense and Sensibility," is milder and more narrowly marriage-minded than Austen's fiction it has enough satirical edge to amuse audiences weary of big-screen explosions and computer wizardry.

(Janet Maslin, NYT)

CHAIN REACTION

Directed by Andrew Davis. U.S.

The premise of "Chain Reaction," a laughable action-adventure thriller starring Keanu Reeves and Morgan Freeman, is a paperback staple: Idealistic scientists battle venal corporate agents to save the world. But director Andrew Davis ("The Fugitive") presents the action with such muscularity and drive that its absurdity barely has time to sink in. Essentially, "Chain Reaction" is more a chase movie, like "The Fugitive," than a true science thriller. Despite its ecological theme, this is just another dumb, marginally enjoyable summer film — relentless, loud, and shamelessly eager to please.

(Hal Hinson, WP)

COOKING

For the Culinarily Challenged

By Suzanne Hamlin
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Nevis Wexler, a book editor in her 30s who lives in Manhattan, says she can remember the very moment, about six years ago, when she realized she needed serious culinary coaching. "One of my first company dinners was a veal stew calling for four cloves of garlic," she said. "I assumed — who knew? — that one clove was one head of garlic."

And her guests, inundated with garlic? She declined to detail their reactions.

Kevin Mills, a 25-year-old screenwriter who lives in Los Angeles, remembers his first roast chicken, a few years ago, as "a humbling experience." It arrived at the table with the heady aroma of burned plastic: The bird had been cooked perfectly intact, including the sealed package of giblets still tucked inside the cavity.

Meet the aspiring new cooks, a gastronomically disadvantaged group so desperately in need of hand holding that they have inspired a whole new category of kitchen manuals. Call them the dummy cookbooks. At least a dozen have been published in the last few years, and many more will arrive in bookstores this month and through the fall. These ground-zero books are for people who need to know that the gas must be turned on for the oven to work, who cannot distinguish between a cleaver and an avocado, and who draw a total blank when asked to set the table.

Keith Lapinski/The New York Times

A new wave of cookbooks for klutzes in the kitchen.

BEST-SELLERS FOR DUMMIES Publishers, of course, are still putting out complex cookbooks devoted to those who have mastered the basics and want to learn, say, 1,000 uses for thyme. But, while the average cookbook is expected to sell about 15,000 copies, some of the dummy books have vastly beaten those odds. "Dad's Own Cook Book," for instance, published in 1993, has sold 185,000 copies; "The Kitchen Survival Guide," published in 1992, has sold more than 100,000.

While publishers believe that novices will graduate to more complex cookbooks, they see this potential cooking generation as desperately needing basic help in the kitchen.

The books are providing the simple advice that women, at least, used to learn simply by being at home around their mothers. "We're seeing the first fast-food generation that was brought up by a fast-food generation," said Elaine Ratner, who, with her husband, Jay Harlow, owns Harlow & Ratner, a small publishing company.

As the publisher of "Now You're Cooking," an award-winning kitchen primer that starts with how to hold a knife, Ratner sees an endless sea of beginners out there. "The audience is college students and brides and grooms, of course, but it's also older adults who have never learned to cook and are now divorced or widowed — anyone that needs help before they tackle 'The Joy of Cooking.'"

Many cooking schools, too, are seeing more interest in basic courses. For 23 years the most popular course at Peter Kump's Cooking School in Manhattan has been "Techniques of Fine Cooking," an intensive 25-hour course in classic French techniques.

"But two years ago we realized that, for many people, our basic course wasn't basic enough," said Rick Smilow, the president of the school. Every two weeks the school now offers "How to Cook (If You've Never Done It Before — A Class for Absolute Beginners)." The three-session course is always fully booked.

JUST as the beginning courses try to overcome the fear of cooking, the new beginner's books are written in a conversational style. The tone is often gently to aggressively humorous, and the recipes recognize the new American menu: guacamole; taco soup; fried eggs; salsa; vegetarian tacos; pasta; grilled fish, beef and vegetables; grains, greens and bean dishes; shortcut fruit cobblers, and almost anything with chocolate.

The recipes can be made quickly, most in 30 minutes or less, but almost all the new primers use fresh — not convenience — foods and explain how to shop for the real thing.

Along with very solid advice on ingredients, techniques, equipment and actual cooking, most of the recent primers include instructions on how to serve food and prepare a table.

Even the older, classic books have been revamped to make them more useful for novices. In the 11th edition of the "Better Homes and Gardens Cook Book," due in bookstores next month, the basics section has been expanded and moved from back to front. The best-selling cookbook of all time, it has sold 30.5 million copies since its first edition in 1930.

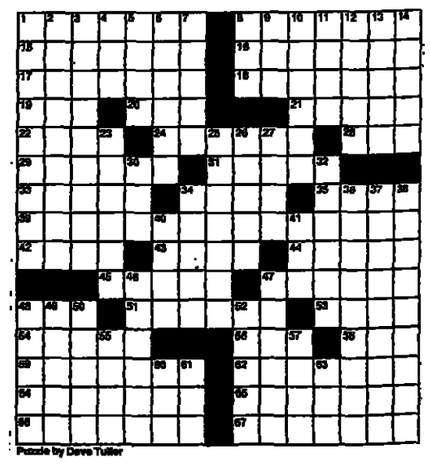
CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Object of a police hunt
8 Around-town expense
15 Strength
16 Historic NASA mission
17 Dishes derived from the Nahuatl Indians
18 Parts of the world
19 Palindromic preposition
20 *Equivalent of -ness*
21 Chopin work
22 Certain commuter plane, for short
24 With a willingness to proceed
28 Put on
29 William Kidd's crime
31 Crème de la crème
33 "Minus" point
34 Plus a point
35 How many *diseases end*
39 Protection, of sorts
42 Slapping site
43 *Do* some film work
44 Dweller on the Volga
45 Sir, abroad
47 Unit of Chinese phonetics
48 Medical meas.
51 "Stately pleasure-dome" site
53 Perry battle site
54 Eagerly accept
56 Muff
58 Ingredient in a Bangalore torpedo
59 Ciudad Bolívar's river
62 Film developer's deadline, maybe
64 Hunter's dish
65 Side dish made with Parmesan
66 Time to look one's best?
67 Voting no

DOWN

1 Rockies resort
2 Begin to nag
3 Work that may go uncredited
4 Dr.'s grp.
5 *Lots of money*
6 Cabinet department
7 Student's dream class
8 Rabbit, e.g.
9 Descendant of the Dryopithecus
10 *They're not* quite up to par
11 Move erratically
12 One way to think
13 Musical form with a recurring theme
14 Altendorf is a suburb of it
23 Scoops
25 Imported wine
26 "The Sacred Wood" essayist
27 Star of an 1850's Barnum tour
30 Business V.I.P.
32 *European* capital
34 Supplement
36 Ore-Ida Foods *brand*
37 "Hold your horses!"
38 Updated *clunker*
40 "99 Luftballons" pop group
41 Western tribe
46 Charlatan's fear
47 Kind of greens
48 Spice tree
49 "God Save the King" writer Henry —
50 Quill
52 Rio — (African coastal region)
55 Entity
57 Answer: Abbr.
60 Bus. concerns
61 Minn. neighbor
63 Yoo —



Puzzle by Dave Tuller

© New York Times/Edited by Will Shortz

Solution to Puzzle of Aug. 8

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R	I	L	E	S		A	N	D		Q	U	O	T	E
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LEISURE

Titanic: Marketing the Macabre

By Ken Ringle
Washington Post Service

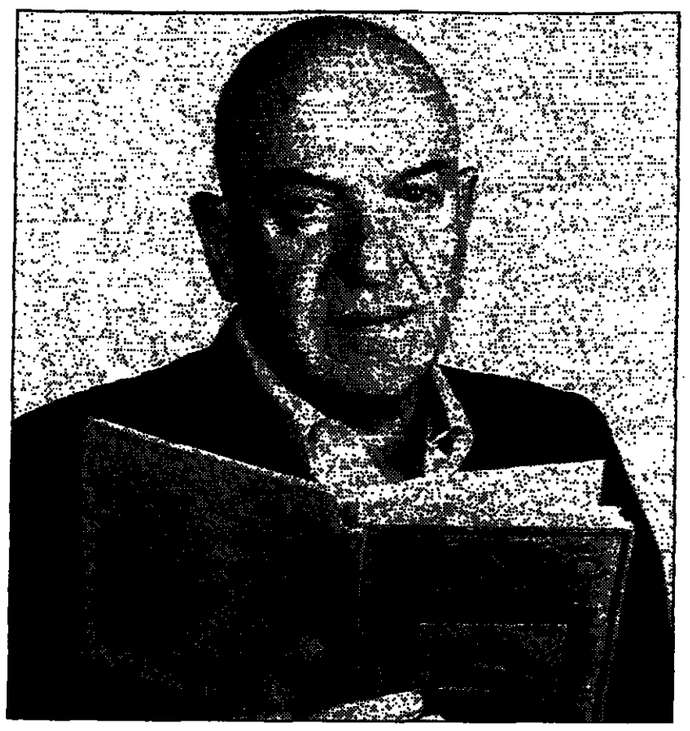
WASHINGTON — Want a lump of Titanic coal in Lucite? A comfy cruise to the site where 1,500 drowned? Your own personal list of those who died?

Welcome to the world of RMS Titanic Inc., whirlwind merchandisers of tragic memory and tireless hucksters of disaster cachet.

In recent weeks thousands of Americans have received "Urgent" mailings offering "an invitation to personally witness the first-ever raising of a major part" of the ocean liner that sank on April 15, 1912, after striking an iceberg on its maiden voyage.

Full-page newspaper ads here and elsewhere have trumpeted "the Titanic expedition cruise" later this month, when two ships will take 2,200 passengers to the scene; 400 miles off Newfoundland, of what is often described as the most poignant civilian tragedy of the 20th century.

According to promotional material, those aboard will "socialize with many of the who's who of the world," including the actor Burt Reynolds and the Apollo 11 astronaut Edwin (Buzz) Aldrin. Tickets for the Aug. 23-Sept. 1 cruise are priced at $1,800 to $6,950 per person, with shipboard entertainment including slot machines and casinos. More than 60 percent of the cabin space has been sold, according to a company spokeswoman, Alexandra Foley.



Telly Savalas auctioning Titanic artifacts in a live TV special in 1987.

Salvage Rights

The cruise is the latest in nearly a decade of Titanic exploitation efforts by George Tulloch, 52, a former car salesman from Greenwich, Connecticut, who two years ago won temporary salvage rights to the world's most famous shipwreck.

Tulloch's often-controversial Titanic projects have been at least tacitly aided by scientists from the French oceanographic institute, who, still smarting from their rarely recognized role in the Titanic's discovery 11 years ago, charter him their undersea expertise and equipment to earn money for other research. They will be aided this month by the Discovery Channel television company, which will underwrite nearly $3 million of the $5.4 million expedition in return for unrestricted filming access to the Titanic site.

"We are well aware of the baggage and reputation that comes with the RMS Titanic group," said a Discovery spokesman, Jim Boyle, adding that there was a "tremendous debate" in his office about the possible danger to Discovery's scientific credibility in joining what appears at times to be a nautical tent show. In the United States Naval Institute Proceedings, for example, the explorer Robert Ballard, who found the Titanic, denounces the expedition as a "carnival." Boyle and a Discovery vice president, Bob Wise, however, said they decided that working with Tulloch was "worth the risk."

Horrified relatives But they've already had problems. In England last April The Guardian described survivors and relatives of those lost in the sinking as horrified by Tulloch's plans to floodlight the wreckage for an underwater television show.

"My father's body may still be on that vessel — and yet they are going to use it as a kind of entertainment," said Millvina Dean, who was 9 weeks old when the Titanic went down.

Dean told The Guardian that Tulloch called her in March to say her photograph was in his expedition brochure and "I got the impression it was some sort of historic event for oceanographers." When she learned otherwise, she said, she withdrew permission for her name to be used.

Wise said that when he read The Guardian report, "We went through the roof. We told George to get his act together or we'd pull the plug on the expedition. His marketing materials leave a lot to be desired."

YET Tulloch's promotion efforts continue to present something less than a complete picture. For example, his advertisements and mailings speak of "a section of the hull that will be recovered" from the Titanic within view of the cruise passengers. All that will be raised, spokesmen acknowledge, will be a 33-foot piece of hull plating now lying on the ocean bottom. Similarly, the ads speak of the wreck being "fully illuminated" for the first time. Previously, in the darkness 2 1/2 miles deep where the Titanic lies, cameras have been able to take only piecemeal shots.

In fact the Titanic lies in two immense pieces almost half a mile apart. The expedition will use four underwater towers and 26,000 watts of electric power to attempt floodlighting of the forward section. Given the problems experienced by virtually every undersea expedition, no one can say if that can be done while the cruise ships are out there.

Promotional materials picture Tulloch himself as a sort of nautical Errol Flynn: "As you may already know from news reports I have led the missions over the past nine years that have recovered many artifacts from the Titanic wreck which lies in a depth."

In fact, though he built his Connecticut car agency into the biggest BMW dealership in the country, Tulloch has little recognizable scientific or nautical background. He has ridden the French submarine Nautile to the Titanic 13 times, but as president of RMS Titanic, he basically finds investors and coordinates expeditions where hired French experts do the salvage work.

At the time of its sinking, the Titanic, at 882 feet in length and 66,000 tons displacement, was the largest movable object ever made by man. Four days into its first trip from Southampton to New York, it hit an iceberg that ripped a 300-foot gash in its starboard side.

The ship remained afloat for three hours, ample time for the 2,200 passengers to board lifeboats on the mirror-calm sea. But there were lifeboats for less than half the passengers and only 705 did so. Everyone else went down with the ship.

Wishes of survivors When Ballard found the Titanic in 1985, he heeded wishes of still-living Titanic survivors that the ship and its artifacts be left undisturbed as a memorial to those who died. In 1987, however, with the help of French oceanographers who had worked with Ballard, Tulloch pieced together a $6 million expedition to the Titanic. The expedition brought back more than 300 Titanic artifacts — chamber pots, cookware, jewelry and the like. The actor Telly Savalas unveiled them on a much-ballyhooed live television special.

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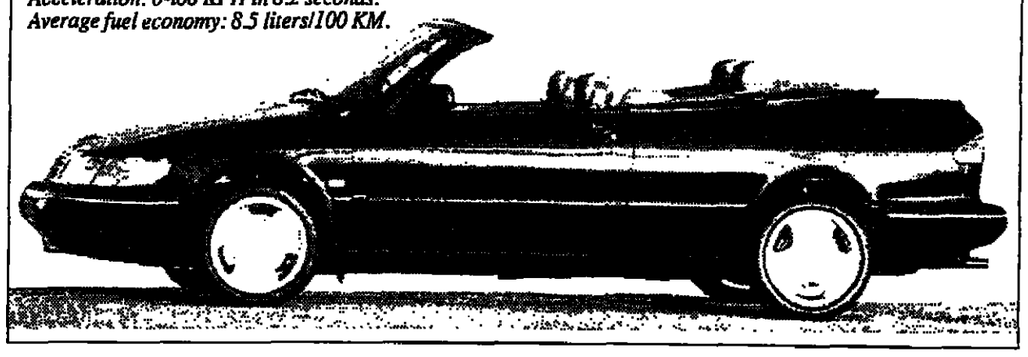


Saab's Quirky 900 Convertible

By Gavin Green

THERE is something pleasingly oddball about Saab. Unlike Sweden's more conventional and better-known exports, Abba and Volvo, Saab has a streak of eccentricity.

They were making two-stroke car engines long after every other manufacturer (apart from Trabant) had decided that there was a better way to go. Their cars were rounded and bug-shaped in the '60s and '70s, when the rest of the world was going square.

But, among many blind alleys, Saab has also occasionally shown the way ahead. The Swedes were among the first makers to commit themselves to front-wheel drive (there has never been a rear-drive Saab). They were among the first to take aerodynamics seriously, an upshot of their aeronautical background (Saab, after all, stands for Svenska Aeroplan AB). They were also the first maker to build turbocharged road cars in great numbers, back in 1978.

And then they were taken over by General Motors! You could compare it to David being taking over by Goliath.

This was a marriage of opposites, in culture as much as in size. GM, the world's most conservative (and biggest) car company, was always going to be an odd protector of those quirky trolls from Trollhattan. A GM man was quickly put in charge. GM floor pans and engines were quickly used. But instead of the obvious happening — that those quirky trolls started to wear jeans and baseball caps, eat Big Macs and laugh at Dave Letterman — they kept on behaving as they'd always done.

Since Saab became part of GM, Saab has continued to be quirky, a maker of nonconformist cars for individuals, not a mass maker for the mainstream. The cars still look odd, still have the spot for inserting the ignition key on the floor between the front seats, still have upright windshields and unusually deep dashboards. Their oddest car at present, and one of the oddest Saabs ever, is the 900 Turbo Convertible with (optional) Sensonic transmission.

Ignore the fact that it has a modified Opel floor pan and most other things are pure maverick. This one has the Saab turbo-four engine, not the GM V6 that's also part of the Saab range (the Saab engine, incidentally, is better). It also has a manual five-speed gearshift with a difference: there is no clutch pedal.

Start the engine, select first gear (your left foot will search in vain for the clutch pedal) and then accelerate. To change gear you simply back off the accelerator and slip the gear lever to the next position. The gearshift has the normal H pattern with fifth up on a dogleg.

So is this it, the car of the future for those who like to change gear themselves? Surely the car with a clutch will now be a thing of the past, like non-synchro transmissions? Well not quite.

Lacks Human Flexibility

The electronic Sensonic brain still lacks the flexibility of a human's when it's connected (via a leg) to a conventional clutch pedal. For instance, the delicate clutch control that enables you to park a normal manual car on a gradient is an alien concept to the Sensonic's program. On the Sensonic the clutch is either on or off, like a switch. The in-between stage, so familiar to drivers of manual cars, is impossible. The upshot is that parking Sensonic on gradients involves a lot of hand-brake work and scuffed bumpers.

Equally, when you drive Sensonic you realize how important are the little mechanical messages you regularly but imperceptibly pick up from a normal manual car. When the engine starts to labor because you're in too high a gear, you automatically downshift, even though you're also concentrating on the radio.

In the Saab Sensonic, when the engine labors in too high a gear, you get little chimes before being automatically dumped into neutral. You get used to all these Sensonic foibles, of course but, until the system improves, I'd rather stick with the normal three pedals and true do-it-yourself gearshifting.

In other ways, the 900 Convertible impresses.

THE turbo engine, as fitted to our test car, is both smooth and powerful, the cabin is comfortable and relatively draft-free when the excellent electric hood is folded, and there's a classiness and individuality about the styling. The ride, too, is good, although there's too much shake over bumps. The loss of the metal roof always compromises a convertible's rigidity. The Saab suffers more than most: a similarly priced convertible BMW feels less like a blancmange over bumps.

There are other open-top cars I'd rather have for this kind of money (the BMW 3-series for one), and there will equally be many people who just can't come to grips with many of the idiosyncrasies of this strange but intriguing car. But, like it or loathe it, it's filled with character. It's a testament to those odd chaps in that far northern country, and their unusual but often ingenious ways of car innovation. Long may General Motors leave them in peace.

Next: The Citroën Saxo

Gavin Green is the editor-in-chief of Car magazine

BOOKS

THE BESTSELLER

By Olivia Goldsmith. 514 pages. $25. HarperCollins.

Reviewed by Carolyn See

THIS charming, goofy fairy tale about the publishing industry — the "book business" — is fantastic and realistic by turns.

Olivia Goldsmith sets up five fictional offerings, all on the fall list at megapublishing house Davis & Dash. "The Duplicity of Men" is written by young Terry O'Neal, who, after 27 rejections, kills herself. Her mother, Opal, finally gets D&D to take it. "A Week in Firenze" is written by Camilla Clapfish, a penniless English tour guide, and it, too, is taken on by a fluke. "In Full Knowledge" is the product of a collaboration between a conniving college professor and his long-suffering wife, who does all of the work and gets none of the credit.

There are two commercial offerings as well, one by Susann Baker Edmonds, a burned-out romance author approaching the end of her career, and the other by Gerald Ochs Davis (son of the Davis in Davis & Dash), who has produced a cynical rehash of an old scandal in his family. "The Bestseller" follows the fortunes of the five novels, from before their acquisition until they either bomb out or make the best-seller list.

For people in the publishing business, this book should be a zany treat. Dozens of editors and agents and booksellers make cameo appearances, as well as many other figures who are legendary in the world of writers: Kathi Goldmark, for instance, who runs the best escort service in the country, or Maureen O'Brien and Paul Nathan from Publishers Weekly or Connie Martinson, on whose cable television show everyone appears, or Laura Ziskin and Kevin McCormick at Fox, famous for turning literary work into wonderful films. All these charmers, and more, more, more dot the book like sequins on a king-size bedspread.

The question is: For people who aren't writers, will this book still be fun to read? Sure! Olivia Goldsmith's forte has always been the writing of revenge novels with great good humor: "The First Wives Club" is a marvelous example, and this, her fourth novel, follows in that tradition.

Davis & Dash is a commercial madhouse filled with fear and folly; the place is full of venal maniacs, all committing crimes just crying out for punishment, and in that sense "The Bestseller" is universal.

Gerald Ochs Davis, publisher of D&D, seems bent on dragging what used to be a good outfit through the dirt. He not only insists on publishing his own hopeless dreck, but shamelessly juggles the books, stealing sales for himself from his other authors.

His editor-in-chief, Pam Mantiss, is a menacing alcoholic dope fiend who sleeps with every male author, lies, cheats, steals and intimidates; she's a human forest fire. The only decent person we see at the firm is a hard-working, plain-talking, literature-loving woman named Emma Ashton, who brings in "Duplicity of Men" and "A Week in Firenze." (Of course Pam takes credit for both.)

Goldsmith has done an interesting thing here. In giving the reader five books and six authors, she's divided the writing life right down the middle. "Duplicity" and "Firenze" both have literary merit, and were written by people who care nothing about money. Gerald Ochs Davis and Susann Baker Edmonds are in the game only for the money and wouldn't know literature from a hamster. But "In Full Knowledge," written by the husband-wife team, teeters in the middle. The husband is a crass fool, the wife is a real writer, and the fate of this book hangs in the balance, as does the fate of so many.

There's lots of romance and revenge here, some of it believable, all of it pleasing. Plenty of awful people get their comeuppance, and there's more satisfactory coupling at the end than in a Shakespeare comedy, so this should make perfect summer reading.

But the use of "The Bestseller" as a writer's handbook shouldn't be disregarded. This is pretty much the way it is: the literary parties, the Frankfurt Book Fair, the American Booksellers' annual bash, the editors both crazy and kind. Writers and those who cherish dreams of the writer's life will love this book, and those who like to see wickedness punished, virtue rewarded and true love conquering all will like it very much as well.

Carolyn See reviews regularly for The Washington Post. Her most recent book is "Dreaming."

BRIDGE

By Alan Truscott

THE Grand National Team competition was won recently by a San Francisco troupe with three former world champions. Chip Martel, Lew Stansby and Hugh Ross were teamed with Ron Smith, Kyle Larsen and Ralph Buchalter.

The diagramed deal contributed to their early lead in the competition. Stansby as South landed in four spades after West had opened with a weak two-bid in diamonds and East had raised. On the combined hands, four hearts would have been a somewhat better contract.

	NORTH	
	♠ 3	
	♡ A K 8 6	
	♢ K 8 5 4	
	♣ Q 6 5 2	
WEST (D)		EAST
♠ 8 5 2		♠ A K 10
♡ 4		♡ Q J 10 2
♢ Q J 10 7 2		♢ 9 3
♣ K 9 7 4		♣ J 10 8 3
	SOUTH	
	♠ Q J 9 7 5 4	
	♡ 9 7 5 3	
	♢ A 9	
	♣ A	

North and South were vulnerable. The bidding:

West	North	East	South
2 ♢	Pass	3 ♢	3 ♠
Pass	3 N.T.	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

West led the heart four.

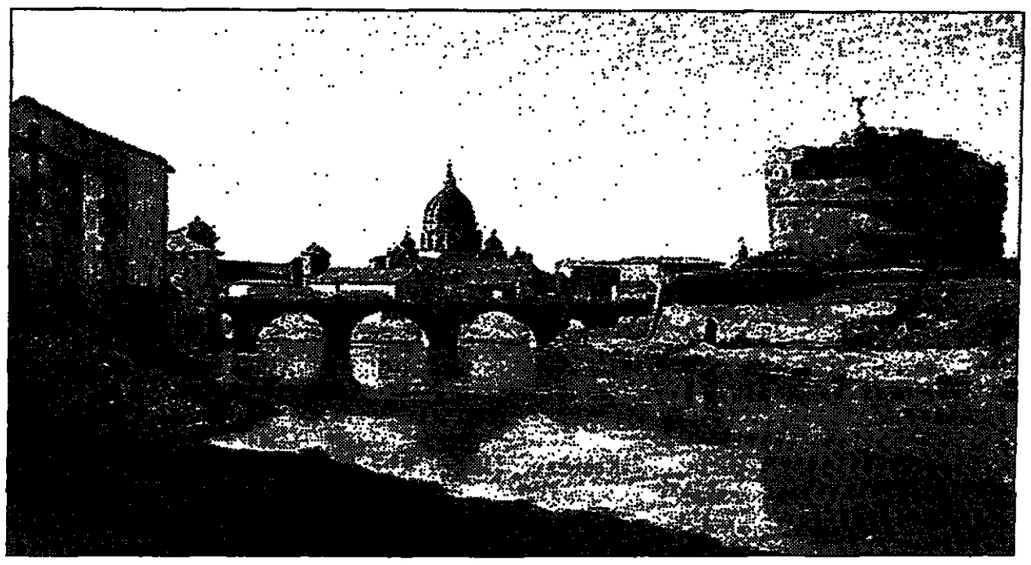
The opening heart lead was won with the king in dummy and a spade was led. East put up the king and led the heart queen, which his partner unwisely ruffed. The diamond queen was returned, and South won with the ace and played the spade queen to drive out the ace.

East should now have returned a diamond to remove dummy's king, but he led a heart, the final defensive error. South won with the ace in dummy, led to the club ace and reached this ending:

	NORTH	
	♠ —	
	♡ 8	
	♢ K 8 5	
	♣ Q 6	
WEST		EAST
♠ —		♠ 10
♡ —		♡ 10
♢ J 10 7		♢ 3
♣ K 9 7		♣ J 10 8
	SOUTH	
	♠ J 9 7 5	
	♡ 9	
	♢ 9	
	♣ —	

He now ran all his trumps, squeezed West in the minor suits and made his contract.

ARTS GUIDE



Corot's "View of St. Peter's and the Castel Sant' Angelo," from "In the Light of Italy" on exhibition in Washington.

AUSTRIA

Vienna
Osterreichische Galerie im Belvedere, tel: (222) 798-0700, open daily. To Sept. 8: "Sergius Pauser, 1896-1970." More than 50 oil paintings by the Austrian painter who sought to capture moods and atmosphere. Branded "degenerate" by the Nazis following a 1938 exhibition in Munich, he began to paint in classical style but returned to portrait painting after the war.

BRITAIN

London
National Gallery, tel: (171) 839-3321, open daily. Continuing/To Aug. 26: "Degas: Beyond Impressionism." Works created after the last Impressionist Exhibition of 1886; and "Degas as a Collector." A selection from the artist's collection.

Manchester
The Whitworth Art Gallery, tel: (161) 275-7450, closed Sundays. To Sept. 15: "Captain Cook's Painter: John Webber, 1751-1793." Works by the Swiss artist who accompanied Captain James Cook on his last expedition in the Pacific in 1776.

FRANCE

Nice
Musée d'Art Moderne et d'Art Contemporain, tel: 93-62-61-62, closed Tuesdays. To Sept. 14: "Chimériques Polymères: Le Plastique dans l'Art Contemporain." One work each by 200 artists such as Agam, Jean Arp, Sol LeWitt, Donald Judd, Yves Klein, Takis, Arman and Louise Nevelson who used plastics in their creations, some of them before polymers were used in the industry.

Paris
Fondation Cartier pour l'Art Contemporain, tel: (1) 42-18-56-77, closed Mondays. Continuing/To Oct. 13: "Comme un Oiseau." Birds as a theme in contemporary art. Features sculptures by Gonzalez-Torres, Brancusi and Calder, paintings by Magritte, Baldessari and Miró, flying machines by Panamarenko, and African and Inuit works.

GERMANY

Berlin
Altes Museum, tel: (30) 203-55-303, closed Mondays. To Oct. 20: "Lovis Corinth: Retrospektive." More than 140 paintings and 80 graphic works by the German artist (1858-1925). Influenced by the French Impressionists, the painter headed the Sezession Movement against the academic school in Berlin. Although he fought the rise of Expressionism, Corinth later adopted some of its characteristics in his Walchensee landscapes painted after 1918.

Hannover
Wilhelm-Busch-Museum, tel: (511) 71-40-76, closed Mondays. To Nov. 3: "Helme Heine: Der Schöne Schein." A selection of stories and pictures from the author and illustrator of children's books.

LUXEMBOURG

Casino Luxembourg, tel: 22-50-45, closed Tuesdays. To Sept. 29: "Sculptures: 7 Attitudes." Recent works by seven contemporary sculptors: Tony Cragg, Richard Deacon, Reinhard Mucha, Didier Vermeiren, Peer Veneman, Franz West and Erwin Wurm.

NETHERLANDS

Amsterdam
Rijksmuseum, tel: (20) 673-21-21, open daily. To Oct. 27: "The Great American Watercolour." More than 50 watercolors selected from the collection of the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, including works by John Singer Sargent, Winslow Homer, Edward Hopper and Georgia O'Keeffe.

NORWAY

Stavanger
International Chamber Music Festival, tel: (47) 51-84-68-70, fax: (47) 51-84-66-73. Aug. 9 to 18: A roster of 30 musicians perform in 25 concerts that take place in the 12th-century cathedral and in the Utstein Monastery as well as other venues. Festival composers include Aribert Reimann from Germany and Halvor Haug from Norway.

SCOTLAND

Edinburgh
National Gallery of Scotland, tel: (31) 332-2266, open daily. To Oct. 20: "Velásquez in Seville." 50 paintings, prints, drawings and watercolors document Velásquez's years in his native Seville, before he moved to Madrid in 1623.

UNITED STATES

New York
Metropolitan Museum, tel: (212) 570-3791, closed Mondays. To Sept. 29: "Toulouse-Lautrec." Prints and posters testify to Toulouse-Lautrec's accomplishments in lithography, and avant-garde techniques in entertainment posters.

Washington
National Gallery of Art, tel: (202) 737-4215, open daily. Continuing/To Sept. 2: "In the Light of Italy: Corot and Early Open-Air Paintings." Explores the work of European artists who broke new ground in landscape painting between 1780 and 1840, with paintings by Corot and lesser-known artists.

CLOSING SOON

Aug. 11: "Eugène Boudin." **Hiroshima Museum of Art, Hiroshima, Japan.**
Aug. 11: "Marc Riboud: Quarante Ans de Photographie en Chine, 1956-1996." **Centre National de la Photographie, Paris.**
Aug. 11: "Canto d'Amore: Classicists Modernism in Music and the Visual Arts, 1914-1935." **Kunstmuseum, Basle, Switzerland.**
Aug. 15: "Power and Gold." **Nationalmuseet, Copenhagen.**

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INTERNATIONAL

Mexican Cleared in Assassination

Judge Rebuffs Government in 1994 Slaying of Candidate

By Sam Dillon
New York Times Service

MEXICO CITY — The government's efforts to clarify the 1994 assassination of Mexico's leading presidential candidate have all but collapsed with the acquittal of the worker who was charged last year as the second gunman in the shooting.

In clearing the suspect, Othon Cortes Vazquez, a federal judge shattered the government's 18-month effort to untangle what it has portrayed as a murder conspiracy. The judge, Mario Pardo Rebolledo, also acquitted two men charged with perjury in the case.

Ever since Luis Donaldo Colosio, the presidential candidate of the governing Institutional Revolutionary Party, was shot as he moved through a crowd in Tijuana on March 23, 1994, Mexicans have been clamoring for justice. But the ruling Wednesday left many in despair of ever receiving any clear accounting of who plotted the crime.

Minutes after a secretary read the judge's decision outside his chambers in Toluca, 65 kilometers (40 miles) west of Mexico City, Attorney General Antonio Lozano issued a statement announcing that he would appeal.

"We'll continue trying to clarify this crime," his spokesman said. "We have a lot of work to do."

But the ruling was such a serious reverse for Mr. Lozano that there were immediate calls for his resignation.

"We beg, we request, we demand the resignation of Antonio Lozano," said Senator Guillermo del Rio, a member of a 13-person congressional committee appointed to monitor the investigation.

A government official said Mr. Lozano had the full confidence of President Ernesto Zedillo. "There is no consideration at all that he might leave his post," the official said. He added that in other law-enforcement matters Mr. Lozano had scored several recent successes, including the arrest of two fugitive bankers last week and of a major drug trafficking ring Monday.

In the months after Mr. Colosio's death, two successive special prosecutors appointed by the president at the time, Carlos Salinas de Gortari, concluded that the crime had been the act of a single deranged gunman, Mario Aburto. During his trial in 1994, he confessed to shooting Mr. Colosio twice and is serving a 45-year sentence.

But few Mexicans are convinced that Mr. Aburto acted alone, especially because Mr. Colosio's two wounds, one to the head at the right ear and a second to the left of the abdomen, appeared difficult for a sole gunman to inflict.

Three months after Mr. Zedillo assumed the presidency in December 1994 and appointed Mr. Lozano, an opposition congressman, as his attorney general, prosecutors arrested Mr. Cortes, a 28-year-old driver and errand boy who had been intermittently employed by the governing party in Baja California.

The authorities also arrested the two other men cleared Wednesday: Fernando de la Soto Rodalleguez, head of an undercover security unit working for Mr. Colosio's campaign, and one of Mr. de la Soto's agents, Alejandro Garcia Hinojosa. Both were charged with lying to investigators in earlier investigations.

With that bold stroke, Mr. Lozano contradicted the Salinas administration's version of the killing, proclaiming that it had been a conspiracy involving at least two gunmen and other unidentified accomplices.

These, prosecutors said, separated Mr. Colosio from his bodyguards and later helped to destroy evidence at the scene.

There were deep flaws in the case. Prosecutors could not produce the pistol they accused Mr. Cortes of firing, and three witnesses who testified that they saw him fire at Mr. Colosio later changed their stories.

The Associated Press

Acquitted in the Colosio assassination, Mr. Cortes gestures in triumph.

Guatemala Peace Pact to Be Signed This Year

Agence France-Presse

MEXICO CITY — The Guatemalan government and leftist guerrillas have agreed to sign a peace accord by the end of the year.

The agreement between the government and Revolutionary National Unity of Guatemala was concluded Wednesday at talks that are being mediated by the United Nations in Mexico City.

In 36 years of conflict between rebels and the government, more than 100,000 people have been killed. Another 45,000 or so are missing.

CHINA: *Visa Exacerbates the Suspicion in Beijing*

Continued from Page 1

declaration similar to the April agreement between Washington and Tokyo strengthening their defense treaty to safeguard regional security.

China is modernizing its armed forces, and caused widespread unease in the region early this year when it test-fired ballistic missiles and staged large-scale military exercises close to Taiwan, ahead of the island's presidential elections.

Tony Tan Keng Yam, deputy prime minister and defense minister of Singapore, said recently that the emergence of China as a key regional player could cause uncertainty in Asia and the Pacific.

"With its growing economic strength and military capability, how China seeks to assert its interests, for example over the Spratly Islands in the South China Sea, will be closely watched by many countries," he said.

Beijing claims sovereignty over the Spratlys and much of the South China Sea, a vital maritime highway for commercial and naval vessels of many nations including the United States, Japan and South Korea.

Roger Bell, professor of history at the University of New South Wales in Sydney, said that efforts to strengthen the Australian-U.S. alliance were "undoubtedly influenced by current U.S. concerns over China's growing power and assertiveness."

He said that the conservative coalition of Prime Minister John Howard, which replaced a Labor government after elections in March, had "endorsed U.S. responses to the realignment of power in East Asia by adding another spoke to the wheel of "constrainment," which Washington is seeking to erect against China."

Apart from Australia and Japan, Washington's other treaty allies in Asia are South Korea, the Philippines and Thailand.

Robyn Lim, professor of international relations at the Hiroshima Shudo University in Japan, said Beijing might succeed in intimidating the smaller regional states. But challenging the big powers invites them "to combine against it," she said.

KIDS: *These Market Consultants Get Paid in Cookies*

Continued from Page 1

pipeline. He has also let researchers rummage through his closet.

"I liked that they were asking me for my opinion because I like giving my opinion," Josh said. "It was cool that I was only 11 or 12 or 10 and working for a big company."

And Andrew Cooledge, 11, tests games for Microsoft. "I've always wanted to have a job that has something to do with computers," said Andrew, now heading into the sixth grade in Bellevue.

Children have long been used in focus groups, which are filled with people picked at random from certain demographic categories and are disbanded after addressing a specific marketing question.

Backers of the consulting approach say that Leah and her colleagues, who are picked for their creativity and articulateness, can provide more in-depth information.

The long-term interaction helps companies learn how young people think and what they care about. Since the consultants are always on call, they can be brought in at all levels of the creative process.

And when they speak, companies listen. After teen-aged girls told Levi Strauss that they liked the fit of men's jeans, the company introduced Guy's Fit Jeans for young women last year.

At Nickelodeon, the children's cable TV channel owned by Viacom Inc., themes raised by young people were used to develop special issues of the network's weekly news magazine, "Nick News."

The youngsters are sometimes paid in cash, although their employers will not say how much. (Josh said he had received $15 to $125 for an assignment.) More often, they get cookies, posters and the same kind of loot Leah received.

Not everyone is sold on young consultants. Many ideas young people generate are not viable, some market researchers and manufacturers said. And, they complained, once children start working as consultants on a regular basis, they lose the fresh perspective that made their insights valuable.

Palestinian Ends Dispute Over Office In Jerusalem

By Joel Greenberg
New York Times Service

JERUSALEM — A confrontation between the Israeli government and a Palestinian legislator who opened an office in East Jerusalem was resolved Thursday when he submitted a written declaration that the office did not belong to the Palestinian Authority.

The legislator, Hatem Abdel Qader, represents East Jerusalem in the Palestinian legislative council. After announcing last week that he was opening an office in his home to meet constituents, he was ordered by the Israeli government to close it, on the grounds that the authority may not operate in Jerusalem.

Mr. Abdel Qader, who contended that he was simply receiving visitors in his living room, said he had submitted a letter Thursday to the Israeli authorities declaring that he was operating "a private office that has nothing to do with the authority or the council."

Israel sees Palestinian offices in Jerusalem as symbols of the Palestinians' desire to make East Jerusalem the capital of a Palestinian state.

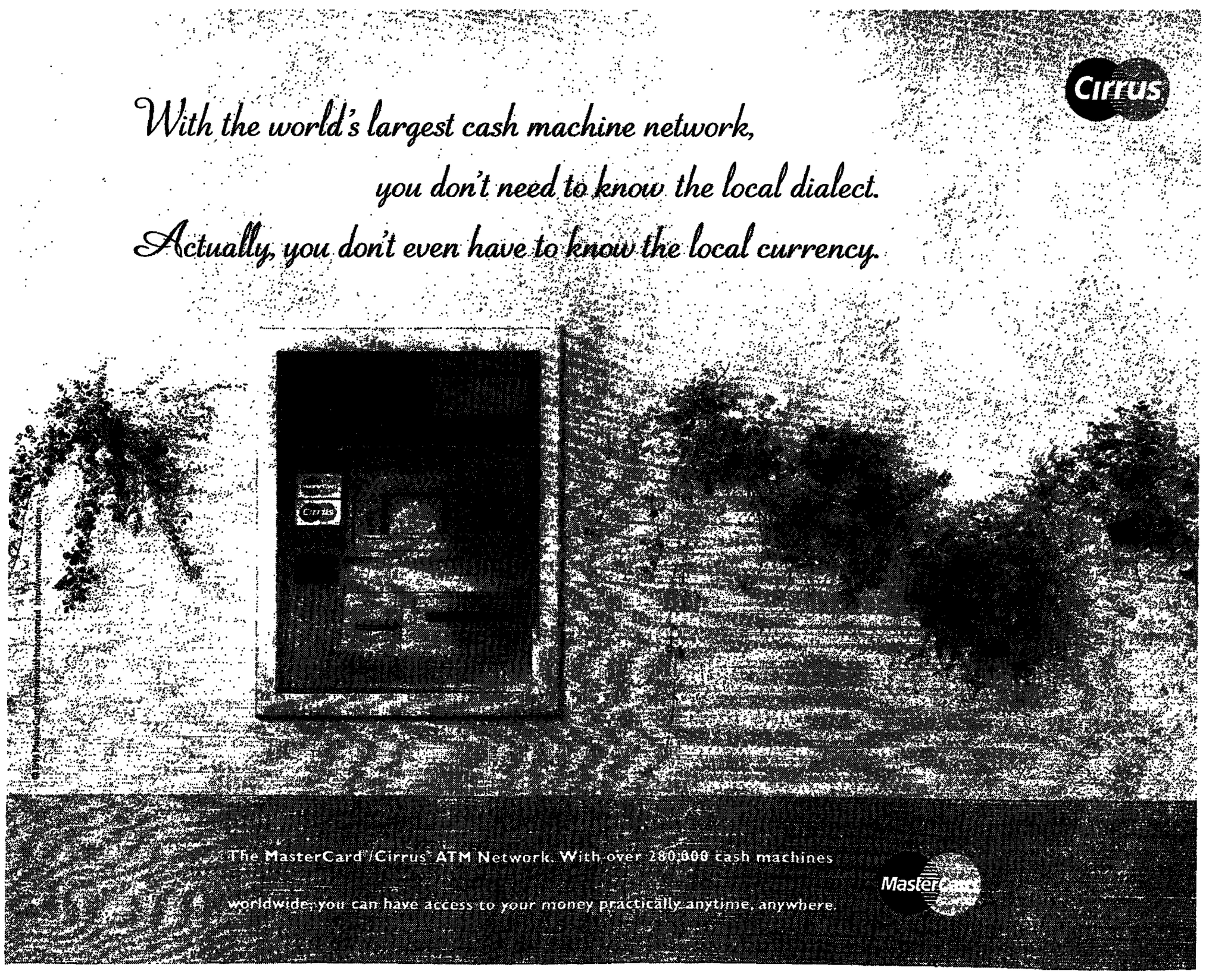
■ Israeli Air Strikes in Lebanon

Israeli air raids on Hezbollah targets in Lebanon on Thursday heralded the first meeting of a five-nation committee monitoring a U.S.-brokered cease-fire between Israel and the guerrilla group, Reuters reported from Naqoura, Lebanon.

Israeli planes hit targets in eastern Lebanon's Syrian-policed Bekaa in two pre-dawn raids, security sources said. There were no reports of casualties in the attacks near the town of Baalbek. They followed the killing since Monday of an Israeli soldier and the wounding of four others in shelling by Hezbollah guerrillas of a post in the Israeli-held southern Lebanon border zone.

A few hours after the air raids, a meeting attended by representatives of France, Israel, Lebanon, Syria and the United States began in Naqoura, headquarters of the UN Interim Force in Lebanon.

The monitoring committee will deal with violations of an April 26 understanding that ended 17 days of fighting between Israel and Hezbollah. Under the understanding, Israeli forces and the guerrillas are banned from firing from or at civilian areas on either side of the border. But it does not bar raids on Israeli troops in south Lebanon and gives both sides the right to self-defense.



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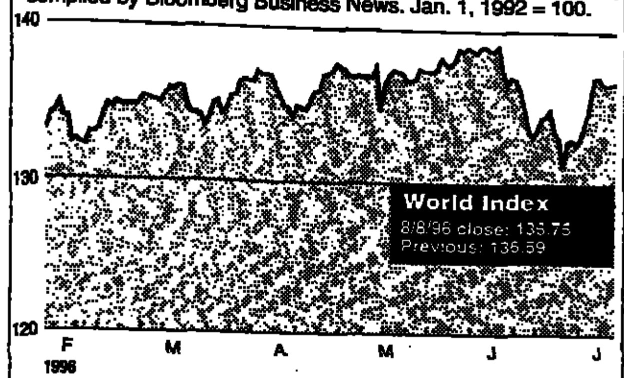
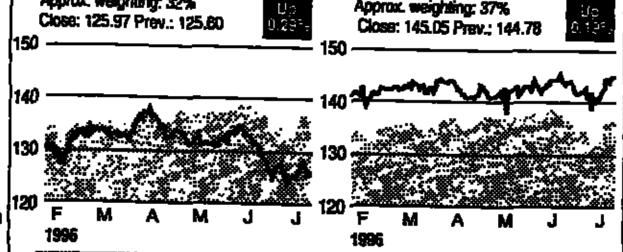
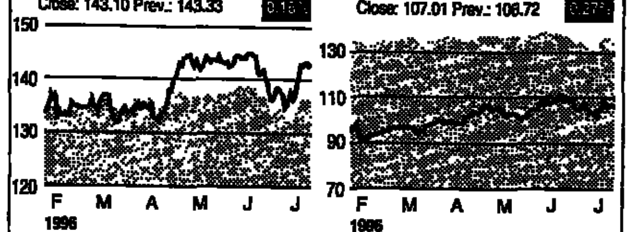
THE TRIB INDEX: 136.75

International Herald Tribune World Stock Index ©, composed of 280 internationally investable stocks from 25 countries, compiled by Bloomberg Business News. Jan. 1, 1992 = 100.







The index tracks U.S. dollar values of stocks in: Tokyo, New York, London, and Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Italy, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Venezuela. For Tokyo, New York and London, the index is composed of the 20 top issues in terms of market capitalization, otherwise the ten top stocks are tracked.

Industrial Sectors

	Thu. close	Prev. close	% change		Thu. close	Prev. close	% change
Energy	143.55	144.00	-0.31	Capital Goods	147.47	147.11	+0.24
Utilities	129.11	128.74	+0.29	Raw Materials	160.18	159.43	+0.47
Finance	117.47	117.16	+0.26	Consumer Goods	148.33	148.61	-0.19
Services	125.43	125.23	+0.16	Miscellaneous	140.89	138.70	+1.58

For more information about the Index, a booklet is available free of charge. Write to Trib Index, 181 Avenue Charles de Gaulle, 92521 Neuilly Cedex, France.

© International Herald Tribune

America Online – Off-Line

Software Glitch Cuts Service for 19 Hours

By David S. Hilzenrath
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — A computer failure that knocked America Online Inc. off-line for almost 19 hours prevented more than 6 million subscribers worldwide from tapping into the Internet and using computer services such as electronic mail that are fast becoming as much a part of daily life as the television and telephone.

The world's largest on-line service broke down Wednesday at 4:00 A.M. Eastern time and did not come back up until 10:45 P.M.

As employees of the company struggled to fix what was described only as a "technical problem in the installation of new host software," people across the United States and in Europe woke up to the vulnerabilities of a technology that they had come to take for granted.

In Smithfield, Virginia, Smithfield Foods Inc. could not fill electronic orders for last-minute gifts.

In San Francisco, executives at C/Net, which provides news and information via the Internet's graphically oriented World Wide Web, noticed that traffic to their commercial Web pages was lighter than usual. America Online customers usually account for 2.5 percent of the traffic.

In Malvern, Pennsylvania, workers at U.S. Interactive Inc., an Internet consulting firm, used the fax machine to exchange crucial documents with a prospective client in Miami — an experience that managing partner Steve Zarrilli described as "kind of prehistoric." The company usually uses America Online's electronic mail.

[The network failure caused America Online's information publishers, such as the investment-advice service Motley Fool, to lose thousands of dollars in access fees or ad revenue, Lawrence M. Fisher of The New York Times reported.

[Motley Fool operates its Web site through America Online and receives about one-third of its revenue — or about $5,000 a day — from the hourly fees America Online charges subscribers.

["I've come to expect that from time to time computers break down," said David Gardner, cofounder with his brother, Tom, of Motley Fool. "As it is, we announced today sort of a holiday. But if it goes on more than a day, I'll be very upset."]

After service was restored, AOL's managing director, Jonathan Bulkeley, sent customers a lengthy apology via E-mail.

Consumers turn to America Online for an array of information and entertainment, which flows over telephone lines to their computer screens. Many have come to depend upon it for E-mail. About 4 million messages a day travel over the system.

■ 4th-Quarter Profit Rises

America Online Inc. reported better-than-expected fourth-quarter earnings as the company added new customers, although at a slower rate than in previous quarters, Bloomberg Business News reported from Dulles, Virginia.

Profit from operations rose to $21 million, or 19 cents a share, from $5.31 million, or 6 cents a share, a year earlier. With a charge of $8 million, or 6 cents a share, from settlement costs for pricing claims, net income was $16.1 million, or 14 cents a share.

Malaysian Investor Buys 8.5% Stake in Coca-Cola Amatil

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

SYDNEY — Kerry Group, a company controlled by Malaysian investor Robert Kuok, will buy an 8.5 percent stake in Coca-Cola Amatil Ltd. to develop soft drinks markets in Asia, Coca-Cola Amatil said Thursday.

Kerry, a privately owned company, will acquire 46 million new shares in Sydney-based Coca-Cola Amatil at 14.51 Australian dollars ($11.27) each, or a total of 667 million dollars.

Coca-Cola Amatil shares climbed 40 cents, or nearly 3 percent, to 15.55 dollars on the news.

"This is one of the few Australian industrial stocks that has a clear growth strategy and is methodically carrying it out," said Ken Lambden, investment manager at ANZ Funds Management.

Mr. Kuok, one of the most prominent investors in the region, is expected to help Coca-Cola Amatil to expand in Southeast Asia from its Indonesian base.

Norb Cole, Coca-Cola Amatil's chief executive, said there was no current understanding with Mr. Kuok for new joint ventures in Asia. He said Coca-Cola Amatil's first priority remained with the countries in which it was already established.

"The focus is exclusively on developing the markets we have and not on acquiring more territory," Mr. Cole said.

Kerry's Coca-Cola bottling franchise for almost half of China is one of the attractions of the agreement because it raises the possibility Coca-Cola Amatil might eventually get a share of that.

Kerry Beverages, Kerry Group's beverages division, has 10 joint-venture companies in China, covering a population of 460 million.

"People like this alliance," said Ron Porter, director of the securities house J.B. Were & Son.

Coca-Cola Amatil, which is 39.5 percent controlled by Atlanta-based Coca-Cola Co., has extensive Coca-Cola bottling interests in Australia, Eastern Europe and Indonesia. It serves a population of 374 million consumers across 16 countries. Coca-Cola's stake will be diluted to about 36.1 percent on completion of the transaction with Kerry.

Investors said they expected a lot to come from the alliance. "I would think that this is the start of a deeper relationship," Mr. Lambden said.

Mr. Kuok said the companies would work together in Asia. "The Kerry Group looks forward to working with CCA to build a relationship, which will strengthen both of our companies' beverages operations in East and Southeast Asia," he said.

Mr. Cole said the money raised would allow the company to accelerate its investment program in developing markets, particularly in Eastern Europe and Indonesia.

The price being paid by Mr. Kuok is a 5 percent discount to the average price of the company's shares in the five days to Aug. 6.

On Wednesday, Coca-Cola Amatil said first-half net profit rose 26 percent to 58.9 million dollars on a 33 percent rise in sales to 1.79 billion dollars. *(Bloomberg, Reuters)*

■ Bankers Trust Gets Backing

Treasurer Peter Costello of Australia said that the government would not object to Bankers Trust Australia Ltd. and its associates taking 14.99 percent of John Fairfax Holdings Ltd., Reuters reported from Canberra.

"An important characteristic of BTA'S foreign investment proposal, which is for less than 15 percent of Fairfax, is that BTA has undertaken to limit its voting of this portfolio interest in Fairfax to less than 5 percent," he said.

Japan Posts Sharp Drop In Surplus

The Associated Press

TOKYO — Japan's surplus in its current account, the broadest measure of trade, shrank 35 percent in the first half of the year to 3.612 trillion yen ($33.44 billion), the Finance Ministry announced Thursday.

The current-account surplus has fallen continuously since December 1994, as growth in imports has steadily outpaced that of exports. One factor contributing to the decline is a continued widening of the service deficit, caused by an increase in the number of Japanese citizens traveling abroad.

For the six months ended in June, Japan's deficit in service trade, including transportation, financial services and tourism, widened to 3.236 trillion yen from 2.517 trillion yen a year earlier.

Another factor behind the declines has been the steady climb of the yen against the dollar over the past several years, which makes imports into Japan cheaper and exports from Japan less profitable. But the dollar is recovering against the yen and economists are saying the declines in Japan's surplus may not continue for long.

For the month of June, Japan's current-account surplus fell 26 percent from the year-earlier month to 672.0 billion yen before adjustment for seasonal factors.

Rank to Sell Its 20% Xerox Stake

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

LONDON — The Rank Organisation PLC announced Thursday that it would sell its 20 percent stake in Rank Xerox as it reorganizes to focus on leisure and entertainment businesses, and it also reported sharply lower profit for the first half.

Rank plans to expand its Hard Rock Cafe chain to include more restaurants, resorts and a record label, while shuffling a variety of other operations ranging from casinos to film duplicators under new management structures. Four months after Andrew Teare was appointed chief executive, the company will change its name to The Rank Group PLC and regroup 23 businesses into just four.

The restructuring was announced as Rank reported a 71 percent drop in pretax profit for the first half of the year, to £128 million ($198 million), which it attributed mainly to accounting changes based on its planned disposal of the Rank Xerox stake.

Revenue rose to £940 million from £854 million.

Rank said that the restructuring and expansion would cost about £25 million this year, but that benefits should be realized within 18 months.

Investors appeared to be unimpressed by the restructuring plans. Rank shares fell 25 pence Thursday, to 442 pence, on the London Stock Exchange.

Rank provided few details of its restructuring, some analysts who attended a meeting with Rank executives said.

"A lot of people would have walked out saying they heard a lot of hot air without any concrete facts," said David Amato, a Greig Middleton & Co. analyst.

"Some questions were left unanswered," said Greg Feehely, an analyst with Kleinwort Benson Securities. "It's not clear why Rank has chosen to continue in some businesses, such as video duplication."

The Rank Xerox stake will be ready for sale by early 1997, Nigel Turnbull, Rank's finance director, said. *(Bloomberg, AP)*

WALL STREET WATCH

NASD to Settle SEC Charges On Market Trading Abuses

By Neil Roland
Bloomberg Business News

WASHINGTON — The Securities and Exchange Commission announced Thursday that the National Association of Securities Dealers had agreed to settle charges that it failed to protect Nasdaq stock market investors against trading abuses by large securities firms.

"The NASD's failure to investigate and pursue aggressively clear indications of possible violations seriously undermined its ability to ensure compliance with the NASD's own rules as well as the requirements of the federal securities laws," a commission report that is part of the settlement said.

The administrative charges filed Thursday accuse the NASD of failing to investigate evidence that member firms were seeking to set artificially high "sell" prices and artificially low "buy" prices between 1990 and 1994. The order requires the NASD to spend $100 million in the next five years — most of which has already been approved by the NASD board — to strengthen enforcement measures.

NASD, an industry body that runs Nasdaq, the second-largest U.S. stock market, "has inadequately enforced rules applicable to market makers while applying, in certain cases, 'ad hoc' standards and criteria not embodied in NASD rules," the order said.

"This is attributable, in part, to the undue influence of Nasdaq market makers in the regulatory processes of the NASD," the commission said.

The long-awaited enforcement action, only the third against a major national stock market in more than 60 years of federal securities regulation, caps a two-year investigation of NASD's alleged laxity toward member firms.

The charges fault NASD for allowing firms to keep trading spreads artificially wide, to "back away" from their posted stock quotes so they can post new prices more favorable to them, and to tardily report trades. These practices undercut investor efforts to trade at the best possible prices, the order said.

Neither the NASD nor the Securities Industry Association, which represents most large brokerage firms, had immediate comment.

Securities-law experts cautioned that the impact of the charges should not be overstated.

"This is a fairly mild sanction," said Alan Bromberg, a Southern Methodist University law professor. "It may be embarrassing to NASD, but it's hardly disastrous and will be mildly constructive for investors."

Profit Rise Propels Nokia Stock

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

HELSINKI — Shares in Nokia Group rose 10 percent Thursday after the telecommunications company released second-quarter results that met analysts' forecasts.

Nokia said its pretax profit fell 56 percent, to 728 million markkaa ($163.0 million), from 1.67 billion markkaa a year ago.

"The market is relieved with a result that for once was in line with expectations," one broker said.

In Helsinki, Nokia stock rose 17 markkaa, to 181, while in New York, American depositary receipts representing its shares surged $3.875, to $39.875.

Nokia said its mobile-phone unit showed a "slight operating profit" after a loss in the first quarter, but the level was still "significantly lower" than it was last year. Nokia added that new products would help results at the division in the second half.

Nokia, the world's second-largest mobile-phone maker after the Motorola Inc. of the United States, has forecast growing markets in Europe and Asia this year and in the United States next year.

The rise in Nokia stock helped shares in other mobile-phone manufacturers rise. Stock in the Swedish company LM Ericsson AB rose 3 kronor, to 141 ($21.30), while in New York, Motorola rose 50 cents, to $57.75. *(AP, Reuters)*

EU Bans Coded Locks Used on Mobile Phones

Bloomberg Business News

BRUSSELS — The European Commission said Thursday it had written to Europe's mobile-phone companies telling them it was banning the use of a security device when it is used to tie mobile phone users to specific operators.

Companies insert a coded "SIM lock" in the handset of their customers' phones as a security device. Only the user knows the code, which is needed to make the phone work.

The European Union's executive agency said such locks limit competition because a user cannot switch to a rival mobile phone operator without either buying a new phone or paying a fee to the operator which supplied the lock — in some cases more that $200. It said the devices were not essential for security.

CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES

Cross Rates

Aug. 8

	$	£	D.M.	F.F.	Lira	D.fl	B.F.	S.F.	Yen	C$	Peseta
Amsterdam	1.6665	2.5825	1.122	0.3294	0.1097*	—	5.4445*	1.3744	1.5402*	1.216	1.3215*
Brussels	30.605	47.34	20.63	6.044	1.8966*	18.364	—	25.2575	0.2138	22.42	24.28*
Frankfurt	1.487	2.295	—	0.2933	0.9787*	0.891	4.852*	1.2258	1.3763*	1.0852	1.1780*
London (a)	1.55	—	2.2997	7.84	2,354.11	2.5773	47.3865	1.8753	167.50	2.1302	195.53
Madrid					Not Available						
Milan	1,518.20	2,346.00	1,021.20	299.35	—	909.25	49.585	1,252.85	14.056	1,107.15	12.047
New York (b)	—	1.5485a	1.4845	5.0625	1,528.00	1.6655	30.59	1.2103	108.275	1.3707	126.23
Paris	5.0665	7.821	3.4095	—	0.3335*	3.038	0.1654	4.1863	4.6912*	3.6979	4.0165*
Tokyo	107.95	166.65	72.68	21.34	0.0711	64.79	3.5278	89.33	—	78.68	0.8565
Toronto	1.3705	2.1242	0.9235	0.2708	0.0902*	0.8231	0.4481*	1.1324	1.2662*	—	1.086*
Zurich	1.2114	1.8791	0.8162	0.2396	0.0798*	0.7276	3.961*	—	1.1212*	0.8837	0.9615*
1 ECU	1.2802	0.8293	1.9023	6.4059	1,944.38	2.1249	39.2081	1.5516	138.357	1.754	161.09
1 SDR	1.4564	0.9406	2.1654	7.3786	2,272.56	2.4288	44.608	1.7466	157.067	2.0084	183.704

Closings in Amsterdam, London, Milan, New York, Paris and Zurich, fixings in other centers; Toronto rates at 3 p.m.
*a: To buy one pound; b: To buy one dollar; *Units of 100; N.Q.: not quoted; N.A.: not available.*

Other Dollar Values

Currency	Per $	Currency	Per $	Currency	Per $	Currency	Per $
		Fin. markka	4.4612	Malay. ring.	2.491	Sing. $	1.4174
				Mex. peso	7.505	S. Afr. rand	4.50
Argent. peso	0.9988	Greek drac.	237.51	N. Zealand $	1.4567	S. Kor. won	814.00
Australian $	1.2844	Hong Kong $	7.7352	Norw. krone	6.417	Swed. krona	6.6419
Austrian sch.	10.45	Hung. forint	153.61	Phil. peso	26.19	Taiwan $	27.50
Brazil real	1.02	Indian rupee	35.73	Polish zloty	2.72	Thai baht	25.28
Chinese yuan	8.3395	Indo. rupiah	2340.63	Port. escudo	152.75	Turkish lira	84171.0
Czech koruna	26.75	Irish £	0.623	Russ ruble	5244.00	UAE dirham	3.671
Danish krone	5.7465	Israeli shek.	3.1505	Saudi riyal	3.7505	Venez. boliv.	473.75
Egypt. pound	3.644	Kuw. dinar	0.299				

Forward Rates

Currency	30-day	60-day	90-day	Currency	30-day	60-day	90-day
Pound Sterling	1.5429	1.5425	1.5423	Japanese yen	107.49	107.01	106.66
Canadian dollar	1.3684	1.3671	1.3657	Swiss franc	1.2086	1.2051	1.2022
Deutsche mark	1.4836	1.4807	1.4782				

Sources: ING Bank (Amsterdam); Indosuez Bank (Brussels); Banca Commerciale Italiana (Milan); Banque de France (Paris); Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi (Tokyo); Royal Bank of Canada (Toronto); IMF (SDR). Other data from Reuters and AP.

Libid-Libor Rates

Aug. 8

	Dollar	D-Mark	Swiss Franc	Sterling	French Franc	Yen	ECU
1-month	5 1/4 - 5 3/8	3 1/16 - 3 3/16	2 1/8 - 2 1/4	5 5/8 - 5 3/4	3 5/16 - 3 7/16	7/16 - 9/16	4 5/16 - 4 7/16
3-month	5 3/8 - 5 1/2	3 1/16 - 3 3/16	2 1/4 - 2 3/8	5 7/8 - 6	3 5/8 - 3 3/4	9/16 - 11/16	4 5/16 - 4 7/16
6-month	5 1/2 - 5 5/8	3 1/4 - 3 3/8	2 3/8 - 2 1/2	5 15/16 - 6 1/16	3 7/8 - 4	3/4 - 7/8	4 3/8 - 4 1/2
1-year	5 3/4 - 5 7/8	3 5/16 - 3 7/16	2 9/16 - 2 11/16	5 15/16 - 6 1/16	4 - 4 1/8	7/8 - 1	4 9/16 - 4 11/16

Sources: Reuters, Lloyds Bank.
Rates applicable to interbank deposits of $1 million minimum (or equivalent).

Key Money Rates

United States	Close	Prev
Discount rate	5.00	5.00
Prime rate	8 1/4	8 1/4
Federal funds	5.00	4 3/4
3-month CDs	5.04	5.05
CP 180 days direct	6.11	6.11
3 month Treasury bill	5.02	5.02
1-year Treasury bill	5.31	5.31
2-year Treasury bill	5.95	5.95
5-year Treasury note	6.29	6.29
7-year Treasury note	6.39	6.39
10-year Treasury note	6.55	6.54
30-year Treasury bond	6.79	6.77
Merrill Lynch 30-day RA	4.85	4.85
Japan		
Discount rate	0.50	0.50
Call money	0.38	0.40
1-month interbank	0.53	0.53
3-month interbank	0.68	0.75
6-month interbank	0.84	0.78
10-year Govt bond	3.20	3.22
Germany		
Lombard rate	4.50	4.50
Call money	3.35	3.35
1-month interbank	3.38	3.38
3-month interbank	3.38	3.38
6-month interbank	3.40	3.40
10-year Bund	6.29	6.25

Britain		
Bank base rate	5 3/4	5 3/4
Call money	5 11/16	5 13/16
1-month interbank	5 11/16	5 11/16
3-month interbank	5 3/4	5 3/4
6-month interbank	5 7/8	5 7/8
10-year Gilt	7.77	7.74
France		
Intervention rate	3.55	3.55
Call money	3 7/8	3 13/16
1-month interbank	3 3/4	3 3/4
3-month interbank	3 7/8	3 15/16
6-month interbank	3 7/8	3 7/8
10-year OAT	6.36	6.35

Sources: Reuters, Bloomberg, Merrill Lynch, Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi, Commerzbank, Crédit Lyonnais.

Gold

	A.M.	P.M.	Ch'ge
Zurich	388.25	388.00	Unch.
London	388.25	388.00	Unch.
New York	393.60	394.40	+0.30

U.S. dollars per ounce. London official fixings; Zurich and New York opening and closing prices; New York Comex (Dec.)
Source: Reuters.

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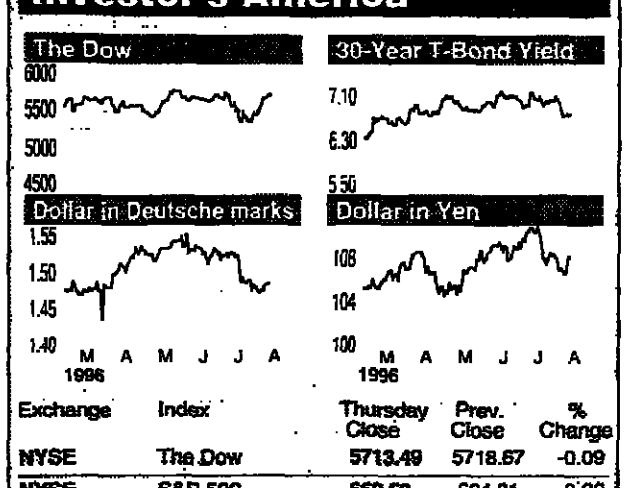
THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

12-8-96

Investor's America



Exchange	Index	Thursday Close	Prev. Close	% Change
NYSE	The Dow	5713.49	5718.67	-0.09
NYSE	S&P 500	662.59	664.61	-0.30
NYSE	S&P 100	640.66	643.16	-0.39
NYSE	Composite	353.91	353.43	+0.14
U.S.	Nasdaq Composite	1139.12	1141.11	-0.17
AMEX	Market Value	551.77	550.24	+0.28
Toronto	TSE index	5041.71	5031.75	+0.20
São Paulo	Bovespa	62000.40	61218.00	+1.28
Mexico City	Bolsa	3185.48	3189.00	-0.11
Buenos Aires	Merval	549.60	552.80	-0.58
Santiago	IPSA General	5451.02	5484.05	-0.60
Caracas	Capital General	4342.05	4435.03	-2.10

Source: Bloomberg, Reuters International Herald Tribune

Very briefly:

AMR to Spin Off Part of Sabre

FORT WORTH, Texas (Combined Dispatches) — AMR Corp., parent of American Airlines, said it planned to spin off less than 20 percent of its Sabre Group information technology subsidiary in an initial public offering slated for the fourth quarter of 1996.

The company said the public offering would take place barring a change in market conditions. A spinoff or sale of the highly successful unit had been considered for years. Sabre operates one of the world's largest computer reservation systems, used by 30,000 travel agencies worldwide.

• **United HealthCare Corp.** said second-quarter profit fell 3.3 percent on increased member visits to doctors and clinics and higher drug costs.

• **Equitable Cos.** said second-quarter earnings rose 38 percent as profit doubled at its Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette Inc. brokerage unit.

• **Sara Lee Corp.** said financial fourth-quarter earnings rose 18 percent on higher profits at each of its main businesses.

• **Pratt & Whitney** has developed a new engine for fighter jets, a more durable version of its F-100, which is designed for F-15 and F-16 fighters.

• **Broken Hill Pty.** and its partner, **Dia Met Minerals Ltd.**, won government approval to begin work on a diamond mine, Canada's first, in the Northwest Territories.

• **Mexico's** revised trade balance for June was $749 million, up from an initial estimate of $591 million, mainly because of the automotive sector, the Finance Ministry said.

•**Oshkosh Truck Corp.** said it agreed to buy **Pierce Manufacturing Inc.**, of Appleton, Wisconsin, a privately owned maker of fire trucks, for $158 million.

• **Governor William Weld** of Massachusetts signed a bill giving the mutual fund industry a $48 million tax break in exchange for a pledge of job creation. *Bloomberg, AP, Reuters*

Apple Pares Plan for Upgrade

By Peter H. Lewis
New York Times Service

BOSTON — Apple Computer Inc. said it had scrapped plans for a major upgrade of its flagship Macintosh operating system software next year and would instead roll out key features of the new code on a regular but piecemeal basis from now on.

The fundamental shift in strategy, disclosed Wednesday at the Macworld computer conference in Boston, comes as Apple is struggling to remain competitive in the computer marketplace, especially in the face of the increasing dominance of Microsoft Corp.'s Windows 95 and Windows NT operating systems.

This strategy means "there will be no single mega-event once every two or three years," said Gilbert Amelio, Apple's chairman and chief executive. "Instead, it will be a process of continual improvement."

Mr. Amelio said Apple would from now on release software updates on a calendar basis, with major upgrades coming every six months, typically in January and July, and minor releases, known as bug fixes, every three months.

Mr. Amelio made the announcement in a speech to the twice-yearly conference, attended by 50,000 of Apple's most dedicated customers.

Under its original plan, Apple was to have released a major revision of its Macintosh operating system, officially called System 8 but informally known as Copland, earlier this year. But Apple had already conceded that System 8 had become so complex that it would not be ready until some time in 1997.

An operating system is the software that gives a computer its look and feel and upon which all other applications and hardware depend.

Some of Apple's critics have said that the company's recent, precipitous slide in revenue and market share can be traced, in part, to Apple's failure to have Copland ready in time to counter Microsoft's Windows 95 software last year.

Beginning with the Macintosh's debut in 1984, Apple introduced millions of people to the concepts of point-and-click commands, windows, icons and other graphical software elements that are now regarded as standard operating system features.

But Apple effectively wasted its decade-long head start, and Windows 95 — borrowing liberally from the Macintosh concept — all but closed the gap.

By waiting until next year to complete work on Copland, Apple could risk allowing Microsoft to erase the lead entirely, which in effect could doom the Cupertino, California, company as a significant force in the desktop computer market.

Ike Nassi, senior vice president for Apple's Applesoft division, said the announcement Wednesday merely made formal a process that Apple had begun last year.

Several important new technologies that were developed for Copland have already been incorporated into the current operating system, he noted.

Older System Cuts Windows 95 Sales

Bloomberg Business News

SAN JOSE, California — Microsoft Corp.'s Windows 95 shipments are expected to be 27 percent lower than previous estimates, according to market researcher Dataquest.

Dataquest said it cut its estimates because of higher than expected sales of Windows 3.1, the previous generation of Windows, to both large and medium companies. Windows 95 shipments in 1996 will reach 45.7 million units in 1996, compared with 18.5 million units in 1995.

Microsoft, the world's largest maker of personal computer software, introduced Windows 95 last August as an enhanced version of the Windows 3.1 program.

Sagging Bond Prices Drag Down Stocks

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

NEW YORK — Stocks retreated Thursday as rising bond yields threatened to make financial and telephone shares less attractive. Procter & Gamble Co. led the decline.

"Interest rates are probably at a point where they're not going lower," said Joseph DeMarco, head trader at HSBC Asset Management. "That's why I don't think you can get too excited about the prospects for the stock market. There's no catalyst from interest rates, nothing from earnings, and you've got mutual fund inflows slowing."

The Dow Jones industrial average closed 5.18 points lower at 5,713.49. Declining and advancing stocks were nearly even on the New York Stock Exchange.

U.S. bonds declined for a second day as traders found fewer-than-expected buyers for the $10 billion in 30-year securities the Treasury sold Thursday.

The yield on the benchmark 30-year Treasury bond climbed to 6.79 percent from 6.77 percent Wednesday as prices fell 4/32 to 90 2/32.

The sale rounds out the government's three-part auction of $39 billion in debt this week.

Rising bond yields translate into higher borrowing costs, crimping companies' investment in new plant and equipment, and raising consumers' credit-card and mortgage rates.

Telephone stocks fell as interest rates rose. BellSouth fell 1 to 39¾, Ameritech dropped 1½ to 55⅞ and Bell Atlantic skidded 1¼ to 59¾.

Financial stocks also reacted to higher rates. Chase Manhattan fell ¼ to 72⅜, First Chicago NBD dropped ⅜ to 40⅛ and Wachovia fell ½ to 45¼.

Electric utilities fell. Houston Industries dropped ⅜ to 23⅜ and Duke Power fell ¼ to 48⅜.

Procter & Gamble led the slump, falling 2⅞ to 87⅞ after the consumer products company reported lackluster fourth-quarter earnings.

Net earnings for the quarter, the fourth in the company's fiscal year, were $554 million, or 77 cents per share, up from $472 million, or 65 cents per share, a year ago. Quarterly sales totaled $8.6 billion, up almost 1 percent.

The maker of Tide detergent, Pampers diapers and other well-known brands credited much of the profit improvement to its worldwide effort to cut costs.

But Wall Street was not impressed. "The sales growth in the quarter at less than 1 percent — that scared people," said Brenda Lee Landry of Morgan Stanley & Co.

Hurt by Procter & Gamble, consumer growth stocks lagged so-called cyclical stocks, whose business is more closely tied to whether the economy grows or slows, for a second day.

U.S. STOCKS

Computer-related and retail shares, which led Wednesday's advance, lacked luster Thursday.

Semiconductors were hit when KLA Instruments Corp. said financial fourth-quarter earnings fell to 47 cents a share from 61 cents a year ago. KLA slid 2⅜ to 20⅛.

Semiconductor shares also suffered when Smith Barney began research coverage of KLA, Applied Materials and Novellus Systems with "neutral" investment ratings.

Applied Materials, a maker of semiconductor manufacturing equipment, fell 1 5/16 to 26⅛, while Novellus dropped ¼ to 41.

Overall, U.S. retail chains saw sluggish results for July, but analysts said the underlying tone of business was still good.

Many apparel retailers saw their stocks slip as most chains reported July sales figures for stores open more than one year.

Gap, whose sales rose 7 percent, fell ¼ to 34; Limited, whose sales gained 3 percent, dropped ½ to 19⅝. AnnTaylor Stores declined 1 to 12.

But Kohl's stock rose 2⅞ to 37⅞ after the department store retailer said same-store sales rose 18.5 percent in July.

TJX, whose sales advanced 4 percent, gained ⅛ to 33⅞.

Sears Roebuck climbed 1⅛ to 44½ on news its department store sales rose 2.9 percent last month.

AMR Corp., parent of American Airlines, soared 4½ to 86¼ after it announced plans to sell less than 20 percent of its Sabre travel reservation unit to the public.

Delta Air Lines climbed 1⅛ to 73¼ after unveiling a low-fare airline designed to lure travelers away from low-cost rivals. The discount airline will operate 128 flights a day.

California Amplifier, down 1¾ at 7⅞ after the maker of microwave-signal equipment said it expected to report a net loss for the quarter ending Aug. 31.

Sara Lee finished unchanged at 32 after the company said its earnings rose 17.5 percent in the final quarter of its financial year. *(Bloomberg, AP)*

Dollar Rises Against Yen for 3d Day

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

NEW YORK — The dollar rose for a third day against the yen on Thursday, reaching a nine-day high at one point as investors became more confident that the Bank of Japan would not raise interest rates soon, but it was slightly lower against other major currencies.

The British pound, meanwhile, firmed amid fading expectations for a British rate cut.

Yasuo Matsushita, the governor of the Bank of Japan, said Wednesday that the central bank would maintain its policy of low interest rates because the pace of economic recovery remains slow. That helps the dollar because it suggests that bank deposits and other investments in the currency will remain relatively attractive.

"The indication is the BOJ won't pull the trigger on a rate hike anytime soon," said Scott Gallopo, chief currency trader at Chase Manhattan Bank in New York.

Japan's discount rate has been at a record low of 0.5 percent since September.

The dollar closed in New York at 108.275 yen, up from 107.945 at the close on Wednesday. Earlier in the day, it had reached 108.320 yen, its highest reading since July 30.

The dollar ended at 1.4845 Deutsche marks, down from 1.4855 DM; at 1.2103 Swiss francs, off from 1.2105, and at 5.0625 French francs, down from 5.0635.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

The British pound rose to $1.5495 from $1.5429.

The pound rose on the view that a survey to be released Friday would show that the British retail industry's prospects are brightening. Speculation that a Confederation of British Industry survey would indicate that retailers expect sales to continue rising damped already dwindling expectations of a British rate reduction.

Talk of a rate cut faded Wednesday after the Bank of England said that rates would have to be raised if the government wanted to meet its inflation report.

"The possibility that the next rate move might be up rather than down boosted sterling," said Debra Larsen, currency trader at Commerzbank.

The South Korean central bank intervened during the afternoon, selling dollars at about 815.00 won, dealers said. It is estimated to have sold about $100 million.

"If the U.S. dollar moves above 815.00 won, it will be only a matter of time before it surges to 820.00, so the central bank wants to keep the dollar from moving up too quickly," said a dollar dealer.

The dollar fell to around 814 won right after the intervention. *(Bloomberg, Knight-Ridder)*

AMEX

Thursday's 4 p.m. Close
The top 300 most-active shares, up to the closing on Wall Street.
The Associated Press

Stock	Sales	High	Low	Latest	Chge
AMC	583	20⅞	19¾	20⅛	+¼
ARC	541	3⅛	2⅞	3	+⅛
AcaGana n	420	12¼	12⅛	12¼	—
AdmRsc	93	9⅝	9⅛	9⅛	—⅛
AdvFin	141	1⅝	1¼	1⅝	+⅛
AdvMed	420	2⅜	2⅛	2⅛	—⅛
AirWat	332	8	7⅝	7⅝	—
AHaggen	128	13¼	13⅛	13⅛	—⅛
AlldRsh	255	6⅛	6	6⅛	—⅛
Alphaln	208	8	7⅞	8	—⅛
AlpineGr	372	4⅝	4⅜	4⅜	—⅛
AltLvng n	312	13⅝	13⅛	13⅛	—⅛
Amdhl	989	10⅛	9⅞	10⅛	+⅛
AExpl	102	12⅛	12	12⅛	+⅛
AIM 86	87	12⅛	12⅛	12⅛	—
AmerPag	107	7	6⅞	7	+⅛
AScIE	759	15⅛	13⅞	14	—1⅛
AmShrd	100	1⅛	1⅛	1⅛	+⅛
Ampal	177	4⅜	4⅛	4⅛	—
Ampev n	2176	7⅛	7	7⅛	—⅛
Andrea	359	12⅛	11	11	—1⅛
Autotote	245	1⅝	1⅛	1⅛	—⅛
Azco	537	1⅝	1⅜	1⅝	—⅛
BAT Ind	151	16⅛	16	16⅛	+⅛
Baker	386	5⅛	5	5	—⅛
Balmty n	339	12⅝	12⅛	12⅛	+⅛
ecBnkrN	255	1	⅞	1	—
BT depP	115	24⅝	24⅛	24⅝	—⅛
BT dep	151	25	24⅞	25	—
BanyHI	186	1⅛	1⅛	1⅛	+⅛
BarrLb s	302	23⅛	22⅞	23⅛	+1
Bayou	119	3⅛	3⅛	3⅛	—
BSJon wt	101	1⅝	1⅛	1⅛	—⅛
BemaGold	2960	4⅝	4⅜	4⅝	—
BenchE	238	34⅝	31⅞	34	+2⅛
BenfPh wt	100	⅞	⅞	⅞	—
BioR A s	185	30⅞	30⅛	30⅞	—
Biovail s	4357	25⅝	22⅛	25⅛	+2⅝
BogenC n	176	4⅝	4⅛	4⅝	—⅛
Bogen wt	228	1	1⅛	1⅛	+⅛
Bowmr	287	1⅛	1⅛	1⅛	—⅛
CSTEnt	682	⅞	⅞	⅞	—⅛
Cablvsn	737	40⅛	40⅛	40⅛	—⅛
Cablefel g	529	6⅛	5⅞	6⅛	+⅛
Cambior	132	13⅛	13⅛	13⅛	+⅛
CdnOc g s	774	15⅝	15⅛	15⅝	—
Cardtch n	396	2⅝	2	2⅛	—
CastlAM s	80	17⅞	17⅛	17⅛	—⅛
CenterT s	493	34⅛	33⅞	34⅛	+⅛
CFCda g	182	4⅞	4⅝	4⅞	+⅛
CentSe	104	22⅛	22⅛	22⅛	—⅛
ChadThr s	255	16⅝	15⅞	16⅝	+⅝
ChevSoft	2085	20⅛	19⅛	19⅝	—⅞
Chief	279	18⅛	18⅛	18⅛	+⅛
CliFFin n	106	10⅞	10⅛	10⅛	—⅛
Chainc	105	7⅛	7⅛	7⅛	+⅛
ColLb	235	12	11⅛	11⅞	—
Comforce	254	17⅛	17⅝	17⅝	—⅝
Cominc g	174	20⅝	20⅝	20⅝	+⅛
CmclAst	128	6⅛	6⅛	6⅛	—⅛
CmdrAp n	467	10⅛	9⅞	10⅛	+⅜
CmdrA wt	610	4⅛	3⅝	4	+⅛
CompTch	172	10⅛	9⅞	10⅝	—
CmpMan n	398	13⅛	13	13⅛	+⅝
Compteck	109	5⅛	5⅛	5⅛	—⅛
Cross	135	13⅞	13⅝	13⅝	—⅛
ecCrwnL	73	1⅛	1⅛	1⅛	—⅛
Cubic s	136	20⅞	20⅛	20⅝	—½
Cvcom gs	445	3⅝	3⅛	3⅝	—⅛
DI Ind	5013	1⅝	1⅛	1⅝	+⅛
DakotaM	123	1⅛	1⅛	1⅛	—
DenlHd	1100	5⅝	5⅛	5⅝	—⅛
Datamet	415	2⅛	2⅛	2⅝	—⅛
Dataram	1035	7⅝	7	7⅛	+⅝
DaytonMn	208	6⅛	6⅝	6⅝	+⅛
Decorat s	180	10⅞	10⅝	10⅞	+⅛
DenAmer	107	4⅞	4⅝	4⅞	+⅝
DevnE	420	25⅛	25	25⅛	—
DiaMetA	106	14⅝	13⅝	14⅝	+⅝
DiagRet	160	10⅞	10½	10⅝	—⅛
Digicon	3776	12⅝	12	12½	+⅛
gdlCT	114	1⅛	1⅛	1⅛	—
Diodes	771	6⅛	5⅞	6⅛	+⅛
Donelly	224	17	16⅛	17	+1
Drewind	156	23	22⅛	22⅞	—⅝
DrvlMu	129	9⅞	9⅝	9½	—
Ducom	169	17½	16⅞	17	—⅝
EZ Serv	3420	2⅝	1⅞	2⅞	+⅝
EchoBay	2748	10⅝	10⅛	10⅝	+⅛
Eqsta	367	11	10⅞	11	+⅛
Edisto	916	1⅛	1⅛	1⅛	—⅛
ElPasoE n	346	5⅝	5⅜	5⅝	+⅛
Elswth	142	9⅝	9⅜	9⅜	—⅛
EmerR	614	2⅞	2⅝	2⅞	+⅛
EmpCar	5688	5⅝	5⅛	5½	+⅛
EnzoBi	278	16	15⅛	15⅝	—⅛
Esklase	361	15	13⅞	14	+⅛
EqusII	103	13⅛	12⅞	13	—⅛
FemHlth	179	5⅛	4⅞	5	+⅛
Fibrbd	230	27⅛	26⅞	26⅞	—⅛
FinFdl s	166	12⅝	12⅜	12⅝	—
FrAust	198	8⅞	8½	8⅞	+⅛
FAusPr	1896	8⅞	8⅝	8⅞	—
Fiber	700	8⅛	8⅛	8⅛	—⅛
ForstLb	1423	37	36⅝	36⅝	—⅜
FortPet	281	3⅝	3⅝	3⅝	—
FountPw	101	11⅝	11½	11⅝	+⅛
FrnkSel	160	5	4⅞	5	+⅛
FreqEl	115	7⅛	7⅛	7⅝	+⅛
Fresenius	1348	19⅛	17⅛	17⅝	—1⅝
Frischs	112	14⅛	13⅝	13⅝	—⅛
GST Tele	284	12⅞	12½	12⅝	—
GamaB	97	3⅛	3⅛	3⅛	—⅛
GayCn	2710	7⅛	7⅛	7⅛	—⅛
GelmSci	146	27⅝	27⅛	27⅝	—
GnAuto	169	2⅝	2⅛	2⅛	—
GnEmp	77	11⅝	11	11⅝	+⅝
GenKinet	120	⅛	⅛	⅛	—
GenvDr	328	11⅝	10⅝	11⅝	+⅛
GetchGld	980	38⅛	35⅛	38½	+2⅛
GiantFd	119	34	33⅝	33⅝	—⅛
Glatfit	316	18⅞	18⅛	18⅛	—⅛
Globlnk	248	7⅛	6⅞	7⅛	+⅛
GoVideo	405	1⅛	1	1⅛	+⅛
GldStarR	1684	19⅞	18	19⅝	+1⅛
GldFld	110	⅛	⅛	⅛	+⅛
GormRup	82	12⅝	12⅜	12⅜	+⅛
Grang g	597	1⅝	1⅝	1⅝	—⅛
Greenbr s	77	16⅝	16	16¼	—⅛
GreyLne	786	3⅛	3⅛	3⅛	—⅛
GrntGam	106	11⅛	11⅛	11⅛	+⅛
GrSymec	227	4⅞	4⅝	4⅞	+⅝
HalEP	149	6⅞	6⅛	6⅞	+⅛
Halsey	140	5	4⅝	4⅝	—⅛
HangOr	422	6	5⅝	5⅞	+⅛
HanvDir	1362	1⅛	1	1⅛	+⅛
HanvDir rt	9212	½	⅛	⅛	+⅛
Han wtB	1454	⅛	⅛	⅛	—⅛
Harken	1941	2⅛	2⅛	2⅝	—⅛
Harold	140	14⅝	14⅛	14⅛	—
Hasbro	1726	36⅛	36	36½	—½
HowAir	661	4	3⅛	3⅛	—
HmCh rt	123	½	⅛	½	—
Hear x n	748	4⅛	3⅞	4	—⅛
HiShear T	119	6⅛	6⅛	6⅛	—⅛
HoopHl	104	12⅝	12	12⅝	+⅝
HevnEn	117	6⅛	6⅛	6⅛	+⅛
HudGn	74	34½	34	34½	+½
ICG Com	553	22⅞	21⅜	21¾	+⅛
Identix	282	11⅞	11⅝	11⅝	—⅛
ImpCM n	162	17	16⅞	16⅞	+⅛
ImpOil g	372	41⅜	41⅛	41⅛	+⅛
IntlgSys	257	2⅛	2	2⅛	—⅛
InCPd	284	3	2⅞	3	—
InterDig	850	7⅝	7⅜	7⅝	+⅛
ecIntrine	343	10⅞	10⅛	10⅜	+⅛
Intrmagn	220	15⅜	14⅞	15⅛	+⅛
IRIS	136	9⅝	8⅞	9⅛	+⅛
IntPoly s	106	18⅜	17⅞	18⅛	+⅛
IonLaser	115	14	13⅝	13⅞	—⅛
IvaxCp	8629	14⅝	14	14½	+⅜
JTS Corp	8015	5⅝	5⅛	5⅝	+⅛
JanBell	269	2⅛	2⅛	2⅛	—⅛
Janelnt	83	12⅝	12⅛	12⅛	—⅛
Joule	152	4⅜	4	4	—
KBK Cap	209	5⅞	5⅝	5⅞	—
KV Ph A	107	10⅝	10⅜	10⅝	+⅛
KankakB	157	19⅞	19	19⅞	+⅞
KatzM	271	12	12	12	—
Keane	86	40	39⅝	39⅝	—⅝
KeyEng	383	8⅛	7⅞	7⅞	—⅛
Kirby	338	16⅝	16⅛	16⅛	—⅛
KoorEq	133	13⅛	13	13	—⅛
LXRBiot	418	2⅜	2⅛	2⅛	—⅛
LaBarg	1114	7⅝	6⅞	7⅛	+⅛
LsrTech	104	5⅛	4⅞	5	—
LazKap	158	13⅝	13	13⅝	—
LeathFac	116	1⅜	1⅛	1⅛	—
LehORCL	200	48⅛	48⅛	48⅛	+⅝
LifldAd	187	1⅛	1⅛	1⅛	—
Lumex	113	10⅝	10⅛	10⅝	+⅛
MAI Sy n	292	7⅝	7⅛	7⅛	—⅛
Magellan	195	16⅛	16	16	—⅛
MaxmPh n	343	9⅝	8⅞	8⅞	—⅝
MaxmP wt	303	2⅝	2½	2½	+⅛
Medeva	95	15⅝	15⅛	15⅝	+⅛
Media	385	31⅝	31⅛	31⅛	—⅜
MedaLog	301	6⅝	6⅜	6⅝	—
Media	138	5⅝	5⅜	5⅝	—⅛
Mem	172	7	6⅞	6⅞	—⅛
Mermic	106	10⅜	10⅛	10⅛	—⅛
Metromda	238	10⅜	10⅛	10⅜	—⅛
MchAnt	110	3	2⅞	2⅞	+⅛
Microtel	81	⅞	⅞	⅞	—
MidatRty	338	10⅛	9⅞	10⅛	+⅛
MinnMul	114	12⅝	12	12⅝	+⅛
MoranF	101	⅞	⅞	⅞	—
MS CSCO	98	45⅝	44⅜	45⅝	+⅞
MS IGT	105	18⅜	18⅛	18⅜	—
MSNtk 97wt	447	8⅝	8⅛	8⅝	+⅜
Munvst	247	9⅛	9	9⅛	+⅛
MyersInd	112	15⅜	15⅛	15⅜	—⅛
NTNCom	807	5⅝	5⅜	5⅝	—⅛
Nabors	1381	15⅛	15	15⅛	—
Nantck	117	4⅜	4⅛	4⅜	+⅛
NatlBev	82	13⅝	13½	13⅝	+⅛
NY Times	2574	30⅝	29⅝	29½	—⅝
NA Vacc	250	17⅞	17⅝	17½	—
NCAPI	162	12⅞	12⅝	12⅝	—⅛
OmniMul	706	5⅜	4⅞	5	—⅛
Oncor	1878	5⅝	4⅞	5⅝	+⅛
Oncormd	276	4⅞	4⅝	4⅝	—⅛
Organon s	1332	18	16⅝	18	+1⅜
PC Quote	211	5⅛	5⅛	5⅛	+⅛
PLC Sys	983	18⅜	17⅜	18⅛	+⅛
PacGulf	191	18⅛	17⅝	17⅞	—⅛
ParsnC	464	12⅜	11⅝	11⅝	—⅛
PegGld	4681	12½	11⅜	11⅞	—½
PennRE	121	19⅞	19⅝	19⅝	—⅛
PerInC	126	10⅜	10⅛	10⅛	—⅛
PhxNet	447	5⅝	5⅜	5½	+⅛
PittwyA s	104	42½	42	42	—⅛
PlnRsc	167	13⅝	13⅜	13⅝	+⅛
Polyvisn	86	⅝	⅝	⅝	—
PortSys s	1414	3⅝	2⅞	3⅝	+⅞
PradLa	911	13⅛	12⅝	13⅛	—⅛
PrcCm	120	6	6	6	—
Pncell s	407	11⅛	11	11⅛	—
PrvEng	93	17⅝	17⅝	17⅝	—
PsycCb	268	6⅝	6⅜	6⅝	+⅛
PSCol pf	1025	58⅛	58⅛	58⅛	+1⅛
PbSI 10	96	20	19⅞	20	+⅛
RF Pow	923	3⅞	3⅝	3⅞	—⅛
ecRander	94	⅛	⅛	⅛	—
ReaGold	120	1⅛	1⅛	1⅛	—
RegalBel	255	16⅝	16⅝	16⅝	+⅛
Relv	154	3⅞	3⅝	3⅞	+⅛
RoyalO g	2085	3⅜	3⅛	3⅜	+⅛
Rymac	309	1⅞	1½	1⅞	—⅛
SBM Ind	130	4⅝	4½	4½	—⅛
SabaPet	150	14⅝	13⅞	13⅞	+⅛
SagaCm s	548	24⅝	23⅝	23⅞	—1⅛
Scheib	155	7⅜	7⅛	7⅜	+⅛
Selicore n	96	8⅝	8½	8⅝	+⅛
ShefldMd	576	4⅛	3⅞	4	+⅛
Shopco	155	3	2⅞	2⅞	—⅛
Silco	200	10⅛	9⅞	9⅞	—⅛
SportsCb	105	2⅞	2⅝	2⅝	—⅛
Stage	185	3	3	3	—
SPDR	8456	66⅞	66⅜	66⅝	—⅛
SP Mid	727	45⅝	45⅜	45⅝	+⅛
Starwd wt	90	½	½	½	—
StrgCmp	155	15⅝	14⅞	14⅞	+⅛
Sulcus	86	2⅝	2½	2⅝	—
SunNur	95	1⅛	1⅛	1⅛	—
SuretyC	345	4⅝	4⅛	4⅛	—⅛
Teche	144	13⅛	13	13	+⅛
Technitrl	115	37⅝	37	37	—½
TelDta	434	40½	40⅛	40⅛	—⅜
Tenera	258	⅝	⅝	⅝	—
TexBiotch	988	3	2⅞	2⅞	+⅛
TexBi wt	298	⅜	⅜	⅜	+⅛
Thermed	296	27	26⅝	26⅝	+⅛
ThCar s	681	33½	31⅞	31⅞	—⅞
ThmFib s	461	13⅝	13⅛	13⅛	—⅛
ThrInst	328	35½	34⅝	35⅛	+½
ThrmRe	155	10⅛	10⅛	10⅛	—⅛
Thermolse	438	23⅛	22⅛	23½	+1⅜
Thrmotr	156	36½	36⅛	36½	—
Tipperary	80	4⅝	4⅜	4⅝	+⅛
TopSrce	1276	4⅝	4½	4⅝	+⅛
TotlPet	149	10⅝	10½	10½	+⅛
TWA	4651	10⅝	10¼	10⅝	+¼
TransMed n	123	19⅝	19⅜	19⅜	—⅛
Trinitech	84	3½	3⅜	3⅜	—⅛
Triton	389	⅝	⅝	⅝	—
TubMex	1527	10⅝	10½	10⅝	—⅛
TurnB B	316	26⅛	26⅛	26⅛	—
US Alc	1281	2	1⅞	2	—
Unapix	138	4⅝	4⅛	4⅜	—⅛
Unilab	1877	⅝	⅝	⅝	—
Unimar	458	4⅝	4⅜	4⅜	—
US Bio wt	291	5	4⅝	4⅝	—
USBiosci s	3601	12½	11⅜	12⅜	+⅝
US Cell	155	30⅝	30⅜	30⅜	+⅛
Urohlth s	227	14	13½	13½	—
VKAdMU2	155	11⅝	11⅜	11⅝	+⅛
Viacom	486	35⅛	34⅝	35⅛	—⅛
ViacB	6039	36⅝	35⅝	36	—⅝
Viac wtC	98	⅞	⅞	⅞	—⅛
Vikonic	114	1⅝	1½	1⅝	+⅛
WRIT	383	15⅝	15⅝	15⅝	—⅛
Webcolnd	112	5⅛	5⅛	5⅛	—⅛
WeiGrd	73	3⅝	3⅝	3⅝	—
WIRET	208	12⅛	12⅛	12⅛	—⅛
WirelssT s	761	9⅛	8⅝	8⅞	—⅛
ecWizTch	250	6⅛	5⅞	6⅛	—
WEB Jon n	1519	14⅝	14⅛	14⅝	—⅛
XCL Ltd	1199	⅛	⅛	⅛	—
Xytron	99	2⅞	2⅝	2⅞	+⅛

U. S. STOCK MARKET DIARY

Indexes

Dow Jones

	Open	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Indus	5702.77	5718.67	5685.75	5713.49	—5.18
Trans	2066.18	2080.74	2059.90	2079.60	+17.98
Util	211.29	212.34	211.29	211.92	+0.21
Comp	1815.01	1821.30	1810.99	1821.02	+3.67

Standard & Poors

	High	Low	Close	Chg.
Industrials	786.74	782.87	784.29	—2.45
Transp.	499.33	495.19	498.93	+2.56
Utilities	189.06	187.97	188.47	—0.29
Finance	68.70	68.44	68.65	+0.05
SP 500	664.17	661.28	662.59	+1.57
SP 100	642.42	639.28	640.66	—1.76

NYSE

	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Composite	354.43	353.21	353.91	—0.52
Industrials	449.88	448.13	449.18	—0.70
Transp.	320.98	318.74	320.89	+1.50
Utility	245.65	243.75	244.20	—1.37
Finance	300.87	300.02	300.75	—0.20

Nasdaq

	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Composite	1139.84	1136.86	1139.12	—1.99
Industrials	1036.57	1034.02	1035.48	—1.59
Banks	1082.91	1080.35	1081.32	—1.97
Insurance	1271.23	1261.22	1271.23	+3.34
Finance	1314.73	1312.38	1313.58	—0.88
Transp.	854.40	842.68	845.26	—6.46

AMEX

	High	Low	Last	Chg.
	551.87	549.80	551.77	+1.53

Dow Jones Bond

	Close	Chg.
20 Bonds	102.46	—0.07
10 Utilities	99.15	—0.01
10 Industrials	105.78	—0.11

Most Actives

NYSE

	Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
MicrnT	76149	26¼	25	25⅝	—⅛
BayNtwk s	54486	25⅝	23⅝	24⅝	+1⅛
Nokia	50993	41⅜	39	39⅞	+3⅛
K mart	46662	10⅛	10	10⅛	—⅛
Compaq	41277	57⅞	56⅝	57⅝	—⅛
Guess n	37732	18⅛	18	18	—
PepsiCo s	32331	32⅛	31⅝	31½	—⅞
HewlPk s	30517	46⅛	45⅛	46¼	+¼
IBM	28921	113⅞	111⅞	113½	+⅝
Motorola	27641	58⅝	57⅝	57⅝	+½
Hanson	25648	13⅝	12⅝	13⅝	+⅝
LSI Log	25608	24	23⅛	23⅛	—
Chrysler s	24882	29	28	28⅝	—⅛
Unisys	24356	6⅛	5⅝	5⅞	—⅛
UHlthCr	23375	39¼	39	39⅛	+1

Nasdaq

	Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Intel	108089	82⅝	80⅛	80⅝	—1⅝
Cisco s	86432	58⅝	56⅝	58⅝	+1⅛
TeleSpec n	64428	16⅛	15⅛	16⅛	—
AsldMed s	50228	27⅛	25⅝	26⅞	—1⅝
Oracle s	40553	42⅛	40⅛	40⅝	—1⅛
Cirrus	39150	18⅛	17	17⅛	—1⅛
3Com s	36184	46⅝	44⅛	46⅛	+1½
CalAmp s	34526	8⅛	6⅛	7⅞	—1⅛
Microsoft	33928	125⅝	123⅝	125⅛	+⅛
Ardco	33398	3⅛	2⅝	3	—⅛
DSC	32508	33⅛	31	32⅝	—1⅛
Quantum	32376	13⅝	12⅞	13⅛	+1⅛
AmerOn s	32212	34⅝	33	33⅝	—1½
MFS Cm s	31904	34	31½	33⅝	—⅛
Informix	30644	26⅛	25⅝	25⅝	+⅛

AMEX

	Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
HanvDir rt	9212	½	⅛	⅛	+⅛
IvaxCp	8629	14⅝	14	14½	+⅜
SPDR	8456	66⅞	66⅜	66⅝	—⅛
JTS Corp	8015	5⅝	5⅛	5⅝	+⅛
ViacB	6039	36⅝	35⅝	36	—⅝
EmpCar	5688	5⅝	5⅛	5½	+⅛
DI Ind	5013	1⅝	1⅛	1⅝	+⅛
PegGld	4681	12½	11⅜	11⅞	—½
TWA	4651	10⅝	10¼	10⅝	+¼
Biovail s	4357	25⅝	22½	25½	+2⅝

Trading Activity

NYSE

	Close	Prev.
Advanced	1143	1415
Declined	1152	981
Unchanged	885	790
Total issues	3180	3186
New Highs	62	78
New Lows	24	16

Nasdaq

	Close	Prev.
Advanced	1754	2106
Declined	1960	1694
Unchanged	1913	1821
Total issues	5627	5621
New Highs	77	96
New Lows	75	81

AMEX

	Close	Prev.
Advanced	286	291
Declined	256	245
Unchanged	195	182
Total issues	737	718
New Highs	15	15
New Lows	3	8

Market Sales

	Today Close	Prev. cons.
NYSE	334.55	474.68
Amex	16.78	25.36
Nasdaq	435.42	534.15

in millions.

Dividends

Company	Per	Amt	Rec	Pay
IRREGULAR				
British Petrol		b 1.158	8-20	11-4
Enersis SA		b .1999	8-23	—
STOCK SPLIT				
Service Corp Intl 2 for 1 split.				
INCREASED				
Carlisle Cos	Q	.245	8-16	9-1
Conseco Inc	Q	.0625	9-20	10-1
Natl Sanitary	Q	.08	8-22	9-6
Reynolds & Rey A	Q	.14	8-20	9-13
INITIAL				
Hanna,MA n	–	.10	8-16	9-12
Omnicare Inc n	–	.015	8-26	9-12
REGULAR				
Aames Fincl	Q	.05	8-15	8-29
Allied Bkshrs	Q	.09	8-14	9-1
Atrion Corp	Q	.30	8-22	9-1
Block Drug A	Q	.29	9-3	10-1
Briggs Stratton	Q	.27	8-29	10-1
Carpenter Tech	Q	.33	8-20	9-5
Elron Electronic	–	.06	9-16	9-30
Ethan Allen	–	.04	10-12	10-25
Grainger,WW	Q	.25	8-19	9-1
Heritage US Gv	M	.087	8-16	8-22
IMCO Recycling	Q	.05	8-30	9-20
Inter-Regional Fin	Q	.15	8-21	9-4
Maytag Corp	Q	.14	8-30	9-14
Mercantile Strs	Q	.285	8-30	9-13
Mercury Fin	Q	.075	8-15	9-3
Modern Controls	Q	.06	11-1	11-15
Motorola Inc	Q	.12	9-13	10-15
Norwalk Svg Soc	Q	.05	8-9	8-27
Safeco Corp	Q	.29	10-4	10-28
Seafield Cap	Q	.30	8-21	8-30
Seligman Qlty	M	.0782	8-16	8-28
Std Motor	Q	.08	8-15	8-30
Thermo Remed	S	.10	8-22	9-5
Trans Leasing	Q	.03	8-16	8-27
Tredegar Ind	Q	.06	9-13	10-1
Walden Residentl	Q	.465	8-15	9-3

a-annual; b-approximate amount per share/ADR; g-payable in Canadian funds; m-monthly; q-quarterly; s-semi-annual

Stock Tables Explained

Sales figures are unofficial. Yearly highs and lows reflect the previous 52 weeks plus the current week, but not the latest trading day. Where a split or stock dividend amounting to 25 percent or more has been paid, the years high-low range and dividend are shown for the new stocks only. Unless otherwise noted, rates of dividends are annual disbursements based on the latest declaration.

a - dividend also extra (s). b - annual rate of dividend plus stock dividend. c - liquidating dividend. cld - called. d - new yearly low. e - dividend declared or paid in preceding 12 months. g - dividend in Canadian funds, subject to 15% non-residence tax. i - dividend declared after split-up or stock dividend. j - dividend paid this year, omitted, deferred, or no action taken at latest dividend meeting. k - dividend declared or paid this year, an accumulative issue with dividends in arrears. n - new issue in the past 52 weeks. The high-low range begins with the start of trading. nd - next day delivery. P/E - price-earnings ratio. r - dividend declared or paid in preceding 12 months, plus stock dividend. s - stock split. Dividend begins with date of split. sls - sales. t - dividend paid in stock in preceding 12 months, estimated cash value on ex-dividend or ex-distribution date. u - new yearly high. v - trading halted. vi - in bankruptcy or receivership or being reorganized under the Bankruptcy Act, or securities assumed by such companies. wd - when distributed. wi - when issued/ ww - with warrants. x - ex-dividend or ex-rights. xdis - ex-distribution. xw - without warrants. y- ex-dividend and sales in full. yld - yield. z - sales in full.

INTERNATIONAL FUTURES

Aug. 8, 1996

Grains

CORN (CBOT) 5,000 bu minimum- dollars per bushel

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Sep 96	3.56	3.43½	3.53	+0.08¼	61,118
Dec 96	3.29¼	3.20	3.28¼	+0.07¼	170,425
Mar 97	3.36½	3.28	3.35¾	+0.07¾	37,892
May 97	3.42	3.35½	3.41¼	+0.08	11,775
Jul 97	3.43½	3.36½	3.42¼	+0.07¾	8,679

Est. sales N.A. Wed's. sales 44,658
Wed's open int 298,147 off 91

SOYBEAN MEAL (CBOT) 100 tons- dollars per ton

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Aug 96	248.00	243.50	247.70	+5.30	8,985
Sep 96	244.00	239.10	243.60	+4.80	16,567
Oct 96	239.30	235.50	239.10	+5.20	7,266
Dec 96	237.50	233.00	237.10	+4.80	27,426
Jan 97	237.50	234.00	236.90	+4.30	4,074
Mar 97	237.80	234.00	237.00	+4.50	3,702

Est. sales N.A. Wed's. sales 19,845
Wed's open int 73,278 off 502

SOYBEAN OIL (CBOT) 60,000 lbs- dollars per 100 lbs.

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Aug 96	25.15	24.72	24.96	+0.31	3,482
Sep 96	25.28	24.76	25.11	+0.30	18,786
Oct 96	25.42	25.05	25.30	+0.32	13,277
Dec 96	25.86	25.41	25.65	+0.30	35,081
Jan 97	26.00	25.60	25.77	+0.27	4,305
Mar 97	26.25	25.95	26.10	+0.30	4,200

Est. sales N.A. Wed's. sales 18,333
Wed's open int 83,132 up 92

SOYBEANS (CBOT) 5,000 bu minimum- dollars per bushel

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Aug 96	7.89½	7.78½	7.88	+0.14¾	6,494
Sep 96	7.69	7.54½	7.67¾	+0.14¾	14,318
Nov 96	7.59	7.43	7.57¼	+0.14	112,758
Jan 97	7.66	7.52	7.65	+0.13¾	16,307
Mar 97	7.72	7.63	7.70¾	+0.13½	8,018

Est. sales N.A. Wed's. sales 31,744
Wed's open int 171,980 off 790

WHEAT (CBOT) 5,000 bu minimum- dollars per bushel

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Sep 96	4.62½	4.53	4.59¾	+0.06	23,904
Dec 96	4.69	4.59	4.66½	+0.06¼	35,233
Mar 97	4.69	4.59	4.65¾	+0.07½	6,891
May 97	4.48	4.32½	4.40	+0.08½	250

Est. sales N.A. Wed's. sales 17,536
Wed's open int 68,947 up 552

Livestock

CATTLE (CMER) 40,000 lbs.- cents per lb.

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Aug 96	68.70	67.75	68.42	+0.77	13,373
Oct 96	70.72	70.05	70.60	+0.55	39,139
Dec 96	67.75	66.92	67.72	+0.45	20,722
Feb 97	65.75	65.22	65.72	+0.42	13,095
Apr 97	67.10	66.70	67.10	+0.30	4,639
Jun 97	65.05	64.80	65.00	+0.20	2,317

Est. sales 20,055 Wed's. sales 17,117
Wed's open int 96,065 off 992

FEEDER CATTLE (CMER) 50,000 lbs.- cents per lb.

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Aug 96	64.05	63.25	63.92	+0.15	3,951
Sep 96	64.50	63.45	64.35	+0.55	3,009
Oct 96	64.75	63.62	64.47	+0.37	7,213
Nov 96	65.05	64.25	64.85	-0.15	2,476
Jan 97	65.70	64.55	65.00	+0.20	1,171
Mar 97	64.90	64.25	64.82	+0.17	774

Est. sales 3,527 Wed's. sales 3,319
Wed's open int 19,553 up 61

HOGS-Live(2/97 Lean) (CMER) 40,000 lbs.- cents per lb.

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Aug 96	62.70	61.60	62.30	+0.55	4,160
Oct 96	57.25	56.30	56.57	—0.03	15,073
Dec 96	56.95	56.07	56.45	—0.22	10,113
Feb 97	76.05	75.30	75.50	—0.70	2,768
Apr 97	73.80	73.30	73.40	—0.60	1,031
Jun 97	78.30	77.75	77.80	—0.67	1,082

Est. sales 10,328 Wed's. sales 9,470
Wed's open int 34,588 up 316

PORK BELLIES (CMER) 40,000 lbs. - cents per lb.

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Aug 96	105.25	102.47	102.47	—2.00	2,361
Feb 97	88.40	85.42	85.42	—2.00	3,843
Mar 97	87.55	84.62	84.62	—2.00	486
May 97	85.65	83.40	83.40	—2.00	236
Jul 97	84.15	82.15	82.15	—2.00	56
Aug 97	81.50	79.47	79.47	—2.00	4

Est. sales 2,584 Wed's. sales 3,032
Wed's open int 6,986 off 632

Food

COCOA (NCSE) 10 metric tons- $ per ton

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Sep 96	1375	1346	1372	+26	16,104
Dec 96	1417	1390	1415	+24	22,088
Mar 97	1451	1427	1450	+27	16,769
May 97	1440	1440	1465	+23	7,467
Jul 97	1475	1475	1475	+16	5,943

Est. sales 12,165 Wed's. sales 7,362
Wed's open int 78,545 up 333

COFFEE C (NCSE) 37,500 lbs.- cents per lb.

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Sep 96	118.00	109.50	116.10	+6.80	13,732
Dec 96	108.00	103.00	107.50	+4.65	10,100
Mar 97	105.00	101.00	104.10	+3.60	3,443
May 97	104.00	102.00	104.05	+3.05	1,022

Est. sales 19,005 Wed's. sales 5,314
Wed's open int 28,464 up 281

SUGAR-WORLD 11 (NCSE) 112,000 lbs.- cents per lb.

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Oct 96	11.51	11.28	11.37	—0.11	70,331
Mar 97	11.23	11.12	11.14	—0.10	44,347
May 97	11.03	10.94	10.97	—0.07	17,068
Jul 97	10.80	10.71	10.71	—0.08	12,973

Est. sales 31,473 Wed's. sales 18,889
Wed's open int 153,098 off 520

ORANGE JUICE (NCTN) 15,000 lbs.- cents per lb.

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Sep 96	114.25	112.65	114.20	+1.60	18,459
Nov 96	111.00	109.70	110.80	+1.20	4,108
Jan 97	110.70	109.50	110.65	+1.10	4,380
Mar 97	111.50	110.90	111.50	+0.85	893

Est. sales N.A. Wed's. sales 780
Wed's open int 20,596 off 110

Metals

GOLD (NCMX) 100 troy oz.- dollars per troy oz.

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Aug 96	388.40	388.00	389.00	+0.40	853
Sep 96			390.30	+0.30	3
Oct 96	391.70	390.60	391.70	+0.30	12,771
Dec 96	394.40	393.40	394.40	+0.30	76,601
Feb 97	396.20	396.00	396.60	+0.30	9,871
Apr 97			399.20	+0.30	5,948
Jun 97	401.40	401.40	401.70	+0.30	10,915
Aug 97			404.20	+0.30	

Est. sales N.A. Wed's. sales 13,836
Wed's open int 159,932 up 1561

HI GRADE COPPER (NCMX) 25,000 lbs.- cents per lb.

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Aug 96	93.50	91.80	91.85	—1.10	2,503
Sep 96	93.20	91.45	91.50	—1.00	16,588
Oct 96	92.00	91.10	91.00	—0.95	1,498
Nov 96	91.50	90.70	90.50	—0.90	1,244
Dec 96	91.20	89.50	89.70	—1.15	15,206
Jan 97	90.50	90.50	89.20	—1.15	971
Feb 97			88.70	—1.20	798
Mar 97	89.90	88.30	88.20	—1.30	6,019
Apr 97			88.05	—1.30	445

Est. sales N.A. Wed's. sales 4,492
Wed's open int 55,761 off 749

SILVER (NCMX) 5,000 troy oz.- cents per troy oz.

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Aug 96			508.1	+6.0	
Sep 96	511.0	502.0	509.8	+5.6	63,040
Oct 96			512.3	+5.6	10
Dec 96	519.0	510.0	517.5	+5.6	27,038
Jan 97			520.6	+5.6	20
Mar 97	525.0	519.0	525.4	+5.6	7,874
May 97			530.4	+5.6	5,516
Jul 97			535.3	+5.6	4,120

Est. sales N.A. Wed's. sales 6,315
Wed's open int 110,840 off 283

PLATINUM (NMER) 50 troy oz.- dollars per troy oz.

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Oct 96	407.00	405.00	406.20	+0.20	19,642
Jan 97	407.70	407.50	407.90	+0.10	3,127
Apr 97	410.50	410.00	410.10		2,360
Jul 97	414.00	414.00	412.50		154
Oct 97			416.00	—0.50	2

Est. sales N.A. Wed's. sales 2,663
Wed's open int 25,288 off 322

LONDON METALS (LME) Dollars per metric ton

	Close		Previous	
Aluminum (High Grade)				
Spot	1483½	1484½	1476½	1477½
Forward	1519.00	1519½	1512.00	1513.00
Copper Cathodes (High Grade)				
Spot	2050.00	2055.00	2043.00	2048.00
Forward	1949.00	1950.00	1941.00	1942.00
Lead				
Spot	823½	824½	814½	815½
Forward	826.00	827.00	819.00	820.00
Nickel				
Spot	7165.00	7175.00	6875.00	6885.00
Forward	7270.00	7280.00	6980.00	6990.00
Tin				
Spot	6120.00	6130.00	6100.00	6105.00
Forward	6185.00	6190.00	6150.00	6155.00
Zinc (Special High Grade)				
Spot	1016½	1017½	1016.00	1017.00
Forward	1043.00	1044.00	1043.00	1044.00

Financial

US T. BILLS (CMER) $1 million- pts of 100 pct.

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Sep 96	95.09	94.97	94.92	—0.01	7,557
Dec 96	94.82	94.79	94.80		1,701
Mar 97	94.70	94.68	94.68		588

Est. sales 350 Wed's. sales 342
Wed's open int 9,846 off 69

5 YR. TREASURY (CBOT) $100,000 prin- pts & 32nds of 100 pct

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Sep 96	106-195	106-145	106-15	— 01	176,977
Dec 96	106-05	106-00	106-005	— 015	7,444
Mar 97			105-23	— 015	

Est. sales N.A. Wed's. sales 31,981
Wed's open int 184,421 off 1273

10 YR. TREASURY (CBOT) $100,000 prin- pts & 32nds of 100 pct

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Sep 96	108-30	108-21	108-22	— 02	312,436
Dec 96	108-10	108-01	108-04	— 01	25,081
Mar 97	108-23	107-22	107-27	— 01	2,070

Est. sales N.A. Wed's. sales 75,980
Wed's open int 339,591 up 6466

US TREASURY BONDS (CBOT) (8 pct-$100,000-pts & 32nds of 100 pct)

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Sep 96	111-24	111-04	111-09	— 05	437,280
Dec 96	111-05	110-20	110-25	— 05	28,854
Mar 97	110-21	110-08	110-11	— 05	4,056
Jun 97			109-29	— 05	1,916

Est. sales 330,000 Wed's. sales 271,916
Wed's open int 472,380 up 2095

LONG GILT (LIFFE) £50,000 - pts & 32nds of 100 pct

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Sep 96	108-05	107-29	107-30	— 0-18	147,338
Dec 96	107-11	107-07	107-06	— 0-09	912

Est. sales: 34,173. Prev. sales: 43,735
Prev. open int.: 148,250 off 949

GERMAN GOVERNMENT BUND (LIFFE) DM250,000 - pts of 100 pct

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Sep 96	97.80	97.67	97.69	— 0.20	238,806
Dec 96	96.92	96.82	96.83	— 0.19	11,742

Est. sales: 72,995. Prev. sales: 96,148
Prev. open int.: 250,548 off 922

10-YEAR FRENCH GOV. BONDS (MATIF) FF500,000 - pts of 100 pct

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Sep 96	123.70	123.42	123.62	+0.00	193,075
Dec 97	122.30	122.10	122.28	— 0.02	35,972
Mar 97	122.10	122.00	122.18	+0.00	5,928

Est. volume: 71,793 . Open int.: 234,975 up 382.

ITALIAN GOVERNMENT BOND (LIFFE) ITL 200 million - pts of 100 pct

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Sep 96	116.78	116.35	116.58	+ 0.20	64,234
Dec 96	115.80	115.80	115.90	+ 0.21	4,546

Est. sales: 29,738. Prev. sales: 36,881
Prev. open int.: 68,780 off 260

EURODOLLARS (CMER) $1 million-pts of 100 pct.

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Aug 96	94.480	94.460	94.470		19,208
Sep 96	94.440	94.420	94.430		388,189
Oct 96	94.340	94.310	94.330	—10	3,890
Dec 96	94.230	94.190	94.200		450,232
Mar 97	94.130	94.080	94.090		285,171
Jun 97	93.970	93.920	93.930	—10	238,958
Sep 97	93.840	93.780	93.790	—20	188,917
Mar 00	93.080	93.050	93.050	—20	35,371

Est. sales 304,808 Wed's. sales 305,071
Wed's open int 2,474,466 up 5423

BRITISH POUND (CMER) 62,500 pounds, $ per pound

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Sep 96	1.5510	1.5420	1.5492	+72	46,440
Dec 96	1.5502	1.5418	1.5486	+70	1,236
Mar 97			1.5484	+70	9

Est. sales 9,434 Wed's. sales 7,660
Wed's open int 47,685 off 1411

CANADIAN DOLLAR (CMER) 100,000 dollars, $ per Cdn. dlr

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Sep 96	.7310	.7295	.7303	+7	35,723
Dec 96	.7330	.7317	.7325	+8	4,158
Mar 97			.7344	+9	456
Jun 97	.7355	.7355	.7359	+10	683

Est. sales 13,780 Wed's. sales 4,130
Wed's open int 41,136 off 383

GERMAN MARK (CMER) 125,000 marks, $ per mark

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Sep 96	.6760	.6729	.6753		69,462
Dec 96	.6794	.6774	.6791	—1	3,266
Mar 97			.6833	—1	633
Jun 97			.6872	—1	10

Est. sales N.A. Wed's. sales 13,234
Wed's open int 73,371 up 756

JAPANESE YEN (CMER) 12.5 million yen, $ per 100 yen

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Sep 96	.009327	.009277	.009284	—28	67,178
Dec 96	.009430	.009392	.009399	—29	5,220
Mar 97	.009544	.009525	.009525	—19	124

Est. sales 16,800 Wed's. sales 26,920
Wed's open int 72,687 up 1398

SWISS FRANC (CMER) 125,000 francs, $ per franc

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Sep 96	.8305	.8259	.8292	—5	37,508
Dec 96	.8359	.8332	.8358	—4	2,304
Mar 97	.8422	.8400	.8429	—3	100

Est. sales 11,199 Wed's. sales 10,038
Wed's open int 39,927 off 848

3-MONTH STERLING (LIFFE) £500,000 - pts of 100 pct

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Sep 96	94.21	94.19	94.19	— 0.03	76,146
Dec 96	94.15	94.09	94.09	— 0.07	104,573
Mar 97	93.95	93.89	93.89	— 0.07	70,988
Jun 97	93.62	93.55	93.56	— 0.08	46,194
Sep 97	93.23	93.18	93.18	— 0.07	31,415
Dec 97	92.87	92.82	92.82	— 0.08	25,148
Mar 98	92.60	92.55	92.56	— 0.06	20,959
Jun 98	92.42	92.37	92.38	— 0.05	13,594
Sep 98	92.28	92.24	92.23	— 0.05	9,411
Dec 98	92.14	92.10	92.11	— 0.05	10,036
Mar 99	92.03	92.00	92.00	— 0.03	3,479
Jun 99	91.93	91.91	91.88	— 0.05	1,583

Est. sales: 50,052. Prev. sales: 104,014
Prev. open int.: 413,726 up 2,685

3-MONTH EUROMARK (LIFFE) DM1 million - pts of 100 pct

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Sep 96	96.70	96.67	96.68	— 0.01	174,453
Dec 96	96.67	96.65	96.65	— 0.03	238,383
Mar 97	96.47	96.45	96.45	— 0.03	192,838
Jun 97	96.18	96.15	96.16	— 0.04	129,678
Sep 97	95.86	95.82	95.82	— 0.05	90,716
Dec 97	95.52	95.48	95.49	— 0.04	68,805
Mar 98	95.18	95.15	95.16	— 0.04	40,741
Jun 98	94.86	94.84	94.85	— 0.03	31,502
Sep 98	94.57	94.53	94.53	— 0.04	22,322
Dec 98	94.28	94.24	94.24	— 0.04	23,262
Mar 99	94.01	94.00	93.99	— 0.04	21,499
Jun 99	93.77	93.77	93.77	— 0.04	9,986

Est. sales: 73,363. Prev. sales: 96,267
Prev. open int.: 1,044,185 up 1,425

3-MONTH PIBOR (MATIF) FF5 million - pts of 100 pct

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Sep 96	95.94	95.88	95.93	+0.04	51,950
Dec 96	95.94	95.87	95.92	+0.04	50,676
Mar 97	95.85	95.81	95.84	+0.03	29,828
Jun 97	95.66	95.63	95.65	+0.03	19,198
Sep 97	95.42	95.39	95.41	+0.01	12,430
Dec 97	95.17	95.15	95.16	+0.01	9,785
Mar 98	94.96	94.95	94.95	+0.00	8,847
Jun 98	94.74	94.72	94.72	+0.00	6,104
Sep 98	94.52	94.50	94.50	— 0.01	4,282
Dec 98	94.26	94.24	94.25	+0.00	4,199
Mar 99	94.02	94.00	94.00	+0.00	8,153
Jun 99	93.79	93.78	93.79	— 0.04	2,008

Est. volume: 75,424. Open int.: 207,460 off 2,761.

3-MONTH EUROLIRA (LIFFE) ITL 1 million - pts of 100 pct

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Sep 96	91.47	91.35	91.42	+ 0.02	57,639
Dec 96	91.96	91.84	91.90	+ 0.02	43,127
Mar 97	92.22	92.12	92.15	+ 0.01	22,938
Jun 97	92.28	92.19	92.21	+ 0.01	14,557
Sep 97	92.22	92.08	92.15	+ 0.03	8,245
Dec 97	92.05	91.95	92.00	+ 0.04	5,311

Est. sales: 31,410. Prev. sales: 37,234
Prev. open int.: 151,817 up 3,939

Industrials

COTTON 2 (NCTN) 50,000 lbs.- cents per lb

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Oct 96	70.50	69.95	70.30	+0.30	7,903
Dec 96	71.20	70.63	70.80	+0.12	32,424
Mar 97	72.65	72.20	72.38	+0.13	7,921
May 97	73.60	73.20	73.44	+0.14	5,849
Jul 97	74.40	74.10	74.18	+0.03	4,595
Oct 97	74.85	74.85	74.65	—0.20	1,065

Est. sales N.A. Wed's. sales 18,998
Wed's open int 62,670 up 1848

HEATING OIL (NMER) 42,000 gal - cents per gal

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Sep 96	59.30	57.95	58.65	+0.43	34,580
Oct 96	59.50	58.15	58.90	+0.55	13,867
Nov 96	59.50	58.35	59.40	+0.90	9,502
Dec 96	59.45	58.45	59.30	+0.65	23,422
Jan 97	59.25	58.40	59.10	+0.60	10,418
Feb 97	58.05	57.40	57.90	+0.55	5,808
Mar 97	55.85	55.45	55.85	+0.60	2,971
Apr 97	53.50	53.30	53.45	+0.45	2,091
May 97	51.80	51.45	51.80	+0.45	1,796
Jun 97	50.90	50.80	50.80	+0.10	2,599

Est. sales N.A. Wed's. sales 24,892
Wed's open int 111,083 off 757

LIGHT SWEET CRUDE (NMER) 1,000 bbl.- dollars per bbl.

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Sep 96	21.71	21.25	21.55	+0.13	60,834
Oct 96	21.18	20.72	21.01	+0.14	49,476
Nov 96	20.60	20.27	20.48	+0.09	29,463
Dec 96	20.15	19.83	20.04	+0.05	39,807
Jan 97	19.75	19.60	19.70	+0.02	28,281
Feb 97	19.49	19.38	19.45		20,058
Mar 97	19.23	19.14	19.22	—0.02	12,687
Apr 97	19.05	18.94	19.01	—0.05	10,278
May 97	18.86	18.76	18.82	—0.06	6,133
Jun 97	18.68	18.58	18.65	—0.07	22,841
Jul 97	18.53	18.47	18.52	—0.08	7,485
Aug 97	18.40	18.40	18.42	—0.09	3,485
Sep 97	18.28	18.25	18.31	—0.10	4,685

Est. sales N.A. Wed's. sales 93,955
Wed's open int 354,262 up 2310

NATURAL GAS (NMER) 10,000 mm btu's, $ per mm btu

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Sep 96	2.168	2.060	2.068	—23	27,954
Oct 96	2.190	2.110	2.125	+2	20,176
Nov 96	2.250	2.190	2.280	+2	13,271
Dec 96	2.330	2.250	2.276	—2	15,626
Jan 97	2.335	2.275	2.281	—1	11,805
Feb 97	2.240	2.200	2.200		7,030
Mar 97	2.130	2.090	2.100		5,517
Apr 97	2.075	2.035	2.042	—5	3,800
May 97	2.040	2.000	2.000		3,181
Jun 97	2.040	2.000	2.002		2,919
Jul 97	2.005	2.000	2.005		2,538

Est. sales N.A. Wed's. sales 34,096
Wed's open int 133,325 up 623

UNLEADED GASOLINE (NMER) 42,000 gal- cents per gal

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Sep 96	62.65	61.35	62.27	+0.27	26,452
Oct 96	60.40	59.30	60.25	+0.44	7,127
Nov 96	58.40	57.65	58.37	+0.36	4,668
Dec 96	57.10	56.65	57.32	+0.31	3,498
Jan 97	56.35	55.65	56.70	-0.34	3,441
Feb 97	56.35	56.35	56.40	+0.36	1,300

Est. sales N.A. Wed's. sales 21,546
Wed's open int 48,215 up 1002

GASOIL (IPE) U.S. dollars per metric ton - lots of 100 tons

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Aug 96	181.75	179.50	181.00	+1.75	9,731
Sep 96	180.75	178.50	179.75	+1.50	21,189
Oct 96	180.00	177.75	179.00	+1.75	6,356
Nov 96	177.75	176.25	177.75	+3.25	4,316
Dec 96	176.25	174.50	176.00	+3.25	11,282
Jan 97	174.25	172.75	174.00	+3.50	5,037
Feb 97	N.T.	N.T.	170.50	+3.25	981
Mar 97	166.25	166.25	167.00	+3.00	2,167
Apl 97	164.00	162.50	163.50	+2.75	2,792
May 97	161.25	159.25	161.25	+3.00	803
Jun 97	159.75	157.50	159.50	+3.00	2,498

Est. sales:20,184 . Open int.:67,176 up 1,740

BRENT OIL (IPE) U.S. dollars per barrel - lots of 1,000 barrels

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Sep 96	20.05	19.70	19.97	+0.21	54,432
Oct 96	19.68	19.33	19.61	+0.20	48,525
Nov 96	19.28	18.96	19.15	+0.17	10,622
Dec 96	18.82	18.63	18.77	+0.14	16,273
Jan 97	18.49	18.32	18.43	+0.10	11,532
Feb 97	18.20	18.06	18.15	+0.07	6,530
Mar 97	17.87	17.87	17.89	+0.04	5,693
Apr 97	17.67	17.65	17.67	+0.02	4,436
May 97	N.T.	N.T.	17.48	+0.02	1,549
June 97	17.30	17.30	17.32	+0.04	4,059

Est. sales: 43,439 . Open int.:164,371 up 2,208

Stock Indexes

S&P COMP. INDEX (CMER) 500 x index

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Sep 96	666.70	662.90	665.00	—1.20	177,721
Dec 96	672.20	669.00	671.00	—1.50	10,549
Mar 97	678.00	675.00	676.30	—1.65	1,402

Est. sales N.A. Wed's. sales 62,852
Wed's open int 190,325 up 370

FTSE 100 (LIFFE) £25 per index point

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Sep 96	3826.0	3819.0	3818.0	— 1.0	61,591
Dec 96	3842.0	3833.5	3839.5	— 1.0	3,187
Mar 97	N.T	N.T	3848.0	— 1.0	310

Est. sales: 8,364. Prev. sales: 12,818
Prev. open int.: 65,088 up 1,221

CAC 40 (MATIF) FF200 per index point

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Aug 96	2010.0	1994.5	1999.5	+0.50	24,226
Sep 96	2013.5	2002.0	2005.0	+0.50	21,435
Oct 96	2015.0	2015.0	2010.5	+0.50	50
Dec 96	2032.0	2021.5	2023.0	+0.50	3,956
Mar 97	N.T.	N.T.	2042.0	+0.50	4,373
Sep 97	N.T.	N.T.	2023.5	+0.50	4,960
Mar 98	N.T.	N.T.	2072.5	+0.50	2,320

Est. volume: 12,234. Open int.: 61,320 up 144.

Commodity Indexes

	Close	Previous
Moody's	1,511.30	1,510.00
Reuters	1,931.60	1,934.90
D.J. Futures	146.63	144.81
CRB	246.42	234.43

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Cold Winter Heats Up VEBA

But the Utility Warns Profit Growth Will Slow

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

DUSSELDORF — VEBA AG said Thursday its first-half net profit rose 17 percent as a cold winter helped electricity earnings surge, but the company's stock price sagged after it said it would not be able to sustain that pace in the second half.

Net profit at the diversified utility company rose to 743 million Deutsche marks ($501.7 million), up from 636 million DM in the first-half of 1995. Sales slipped to 36.59 billion DM from 36.78 billion DM.

"We don't expect to maintain the first-half growth rate" for the full year, VEBA said. VEBA's shares dropped 1.67 DM, to 77.00 DM.

"The problem isn't really in 1996, but rather it will come in 1997 and 1998," said Ricardo Barcelona, an analyst at SBC Warburg in London. "The duration and intensity of this year's winter worked in favor of the company."

But VEBA said it was "optimistic we can achieve a clear earnings improvement for the full year." Strong electricity sales, cost cutting and reduced extraordinary expenses will fuel the growth, VEBA said.

VEBA said sales in its chemicals division fell 4 percent, to 5.40 billion DM. Earnings in that division fell as strong sales of silicon wafers for semiconductor production were insufficient to compensate for weakness in other areas.

Revenue from electricity sales fell 3 percent, to 7.77 billion DM because of regulatory changes and price reductions. The *Kohlepfennig*, an energy surcharge, was originally included in total sales. Since the surcharge was abolished in January, prices declined slightly while consumption and exports increased due to the hard winter. That explains why profit in that division rose even though sales fell, VEBA said.

"Of course this one-time effect, the long winter, probably won't be repeated," said Michael Vieker, a fund manager at Muenchener Kapitalanlage AG in Munich. He added that investors were hoping the company's telecommunications business would make up for declines in growth elsewhere.

Still, it will take up to five years until the telecommunications unit earns enough to make up for declines in other divisions, he added.

The telecommunications division, "as expected," had a "significantly higher" loss than a year earlier, VEBA said.

But sales in the division had risen 4 percent in the first half, to 186 million DM.

Sales from trading, transportation, distribution and services fell about 2 percent to 14.82 billion DM. VEBA said the decline reflected overall economic weakness, particularly in the building and shipping industries.

VEBA cut its work force 1.5 percent to 123,255 employees. The number of workers in telecommunications rose 22 percent, while the number in the electricity and oil units declined. *(Bloomberg, AFX)*

Coal Miners in Russia Call Off Vorkuta Strike

Reuters

MOSCOW — Coal miners in Russia's northern Vorkuta region have called off an indefinite strike planned to start on Thursday, Itar-Tass news agency reported.

They decided to suspend any action until after Coal Miners' Day on Aug. 25 in the hope the Russian government will be able to pay back wages by then.

Many miners in Russia's Far East returned to work on Wednesday after a strike lasting almost a month, but the miners' union threatened to go ahead with plans for a nationwide stoppage unless all overdue wages were paid.

Itar-Tass quoted the Far Eastern Primorskugol coal-mining company as saying that half the pits in the region had resumed production and deliveries. More than 11,000 miners had been on strike in the region.

The union chairman, Vitaly Budko, has said that salary arrears to miners now total 1.7 trillion rubles ($327 million) and that many miners had not been paid for several months. Coal companies are owed a further 6 trillion rubles, he added.

Mr. Budko said that up to 30,000 miners in 19 of the 23 mines in the central Russian Rostov region were on strike for a seventh day Thursday, demanding back pay totaling 350 billion rubles. He said the Rostov miners were last paid in February.

■ Historic Gdansk Shipyard Is Declared Bankrupt

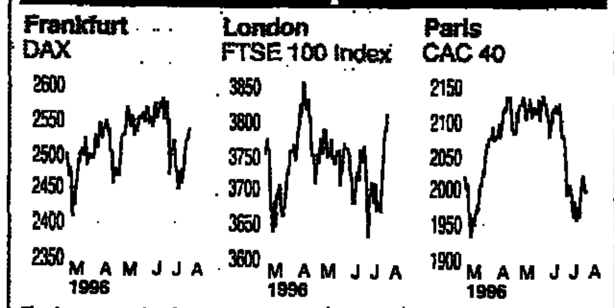
A regional court declared the historic Gdansk shipyard in bankruptcy Thursday, bringing to a close months of speculation about the future of the site where Lech Walesa's Solidarity union movement was born, The Associated Press reported from Gdansk, Poland.

The yard's creditors will have two months to lodge claims.

Ryszard Glouch, president of the shipyard, said that the bankruptcy would release Gdansk from economically unviable shipbuilding contracts. It will also make it easier for agreements with creditors on the yard's 414 million zloty ($152.2 million) debt.

Strikes at the shipyard in 1980 led to the formation of Solidarity, which was instrumental in the eventual demise of Communist rule in Poland in 1989. Mr. Walesa later served as president.

Investor's Europe



Exchange	Index	Thursday Close	Prev. Close	% Change
Amsterdam	EOE	550.20	553.44	-0.59
Brussels	Stock Exchange	9,500.99	9,497.79	+0.03
Frankfurt	DAX	2,538.15	2,531.89	+0.25
Copenhagen	Stock Market	416.10	413.23	+0.69
Helsinki	HEX General	2,072.15	2,014.65	+2.85
Oslo	OBX	451.12	450.14	+0.22
London	FTSE 100	3,811.42	3,811.10	+0.01
Madrid	Stock Exchange	357.61	357.87	-0.07
Milan	MIBTEL	9,662.00	9,635.00	+0.28
Paris	CAC 40	1,997.42	1,996.74	+0.03
Stockholm	SX 16	2,035.47	2,029.09	+0.31
Vienna	ATX	1,028.02	1,028.58	-0.05
Zurich	SPI	2,345.93	2,349.34	-0.15

Source: Telekurs International Herald Tribune

Very briefly:

- **Fokus Bank** of Norway reported a 16 percent fall in six-month net profit to 261 million kroner ($40.8 million). Net interest income, the bank's core business, fell 7 percent to 463 million kroner.
- **Denmark's** June seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was at 8.7 percent, down from 8.8 percent in May, and down from 10.4 percent in June 1995.
- **Willis Corroon Group PLC** said pretax profit rose more than 6 percent, to £70.6 million ($108.9 million), as growth in new business more than offset reductions in insurance premiums.
- **Invesco PLC** said first-half pretax profit rose 42 percent to £32 million amid rising global equity markets and gains in fee income from new business. The company also increased its dividend to 2 pence a share from 1.75 pence last year.
- **National Westminster PLC** completed the sale of 80 percent of its Spanish retail division to **Banco de Sabadell** for £123 million and has an option to sell it the rest.
- **Glaxo Wellcome PLC and Oxford Molecular Group PLC**, a British biotechnology firm, agreed to set up an on-line library that will allow users access to software and databases of genetic information.
- **The Czech National Bank** has withdrawn the **Kreditni Banka AS's** banking license because of bad lending policies that left the bank with a portfolio of poor-quality loans.
- **Sweden's** gross domestic product rose a preliminary 1.1 percent in the second quarter from the same period last year, while it rose 0.5 percent from the first quarter this year.
- **Israel** is planning a program to privatize government companies where labor opposition is weak, starting in September.
- **Societa Finanziaria Telefonica SpA** said it had launched the procedure to sell its telephone directory publisher Seat, valued at around 3 trillion lire ($1.9 billion), before its own privatization in February and March.
- **Pernod Ricard SA's** first-half consolidated sales, excluding taxes, rose 4 percent, to 7.98 billion French francs ($1.6 billion).

AFX, Reuters, Bloomberg

U.K. Insurers Set a Merger

AFX News

LONDON — United Friendly Group PLC and Refuge Group PLC said Thursday they had reached terms on a merger and that the new company would be called United Assurance Group PLC.

Under the terms of the merger, Refuge Group will offer 208 new Refuge shares for every 100 United Friendly B shares held and 832 new Refuge shares for every 100 United Friendly ordinary shares.

When the merger takes effect, Refuge shareholders will hold about 47 percent of the new group and United Friendly shareholders about 53 percent.

United Assurance will be the fourth-largest participant in the home service sector of Britain's life insurance and pensions market. At the end 1995, the Refuge Group and the United Friendly Group together had a total of 6.6 million policies in force, with earned life and pensions premium income of £445 million ($686.6 million) and investment assets under management totaling £6.5 billion.

Reed Elsevier Profit Rises On Strength of Lexis Sales

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

LONDON — Reed Elsevier PLC, Europe's biggest media company, said Thursday that pretax profit had risen 12.4 percent in the first half, driven by growth of existing businesses and continuing strong sales at its Lexis-Nexis electronic database unit.

The English-Dutch company also announced that it would purchase Tolley Publishing Co. from United News & Media for £100.5 million ($155.1 million). Tolley is a tax, business and legal publishing concern in Britain.

"This acquisition is a perfect fit with our existing legal and tax publishing operations in Britain," said Herman Bruggink, co-chairman of Reed Elsevier.

Reed Elsevier and Times Mirror Co. acquired Shephard's/McGraw Hill, a U.S. legal publishing business, in a joint venture in July.

First-half pretax profit at Reed Elsevier, which publishes Variety, New Scientist and Marie Claire among other journals, was £416 million, at the top end of analysts' expectations, compared with £370 million a year earlier. Sales fell to £1.7 billion from £1.81 billion.

Reed International PLC of Britain and Elsevier NV of the Netherlands each own 50 percent of Reed Elsevier, which was formed in 1993. *(Bloomberg, AP)*

Cost Cuts Buoy ABB in 22% Gain in Net

Bloomberg Business News

ZURICH — ABB Asea Brown Boveri Ltd. said that first-half net profit rose 22 percent, in line with most estimates, as power project revenue grew and cost-cutting measures took hold.

Net profit at the Swiss-Swedish engineering company rose to $556 million from $454 million in the year-earlier period.

Earlier, the Swiss parent company, ABB AG, said it would cut the nominal value of its shares in half and pay 456 million Swiss francs ($376.7 million) to shareholders. ABB AB, the Swedish parent, said it would not match the plan.

Polish Lawmakers Approve Plan to Reform Economy

Reuters

WARSAW — Legislators approved sweeping reforms Thursday that will limit the government's role in the economy and streamline decision-making.

Under the reform, control over most of Poland's 3,700 companies still in state hands will pass from ministers to provincial governors.

The plan also provides for merging the industry and economics ministries, eliminating the foreign trade and construction ministries as well as the Central Planning Office, and setting up a treasury ministry to make cabinet decision-making more efficient.

"This reform will not only help improve the work of our current government but also make public administration more efficient in the future," Grzegorz Kolodko, deputy prime minister, told Parliament.

President Aleksander Kwasniewski has said he will sign the bills into law. But the reform package is likely to divide Poland's two-party ruling leftist coalition over the line-up of the altered cabinet.

■ Slovakia Pledges to Stick With Pace of Privatization

The pace of privatization in Slovakia will not be changed, despite demands by parliamentary opposition members to slow the process, officials from the ruling Movement for a Democratic Slovakia said, Reuters reported from Bratislava.

"It is necessary to find strategic owners quickly, to cut the pre-privatization agony" in state companies, said Augustin Huska, vice chairman of the group.

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

Thursday, Aug. 8
Prices in local currencies.
Telekurs

Amsterdam
EOE Index: 550.20 Previous: 553.44

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
ABN-AMRO	92.90	91.80	92.30	92.40
Aegon	81.70	80.50	80.70	81.50
Ahold	85.20	84.90	84.90	85
Akzo Nobel	190	187.20	187.70	189.70
Bols Wess cva	28.30	27.90	28.10	28.20
CSM cva	81.30	81.10	81.10	81.30
Dordtsche Pet	271.80	268.20	268.20	270.70
DSM	152.40	151.20	151.50	152.10
Elsevier	26.80	26	26.40	26.70
Fortis Amev	50.70	49.50	49.80	50.20
G-Broc cva	52.70	51.60	52.50	52
Hagemeyer	127	126.10	126.40	126.20
Heineken	372	368	369.20	370.50
Hoogovens	61.90	59.70	59.80	61.20
Hunt Douglas	122.50	119	122	119
ING Group	52.50	51.70	51.90	52
KLM	51	48	48.40	51.80
KNP BT	37	36.10	36.60	35.90
KPN	62.90	62	62.40	62.50
Nedlloyd Gp	37.10	36.70	36.80	36.80
Nutricia	190	186.60	188.30	186.90
Oce Grinten	169.30	166.50	166.50	168.50
Pakhoed	42.80	42.10	42.70	42.30
Philips Elec	55.40	54.70	55.10	54.90
Polygram	99.20	98.20	98.70	98.50
Randstad Hdg	122.40	120.50	121.50	121
Robeco	123.50	122.80	123.50	122.60
Rodamco	46.70	46.40	46.70	46.60
Rolinco	132.60	132.40	132.40	131.50
Rorento	97.90	97.80	97.80	97.90
Royal Dutch	252.50	249.20	249.80	252.30
Stork	49.30	48.40	49.30	48.10
Unilever cva	238.20	236.30	236.90	238.70
VNU	28	27.30	27.50	27.90
Wolters Kl cva	206	203	203.10	206.40

Bangkok
SET Index: 1130.42 Previous: 1133.33

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Adv Info Svc	336	330	334	328
Bangkok Bk F	320	318	320	316
Krung Thai Bk	113	110	110	112
PTT Explor	346	344	346	346
Siam Cement F	1090	1054	1072	1054
Telecomasia	48.50	47.75	48	48
Thai Airways	52	50	52	50.50
Thai Farm Bk F	252	250	250	250
Thai Teleph	49	48	48.25	49
Utd Comm	298	296	298	300

Bombay
Wednesday, Aug. 7 — Sensitive Index: 3543.44 Previous: 3489.21

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Assoc Cement	2149	2095	2134.50	2077
Grasim Ind	475	467	473.25	472
Hindalco Ind	1010	1004	1004	1010.25
Indust Lever	879.75	860.25	875.75	864.50
Indian Hotels	763	760	763	755
ITC	308	302	307.50	303
Larsen Toubro	257.25	246	256.75	245.75
Reliance Ind	213	205.50	212.50	204.50
Tata Eng Loco	510	496	500	499.25
Tata Iron St	200	187.75	199.75	188

Brussels
Stock Exchange Index: 9500.99 Previous: 9497.79

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Arbed	3500	3420	3490	3400
Barco Ind	5050	5030	5030	5040
BBL	5900	5870	5870	5850
Bekaert	25400	25100	25125	25350
CBR	2340	2330	2330	2335
CMB	2510	2480	2490	2500
Cockerill	138	134	135	135
Colruyt	11125	11050	11075	11000
Delhaize Lion	1660	1650	1650	1660
Electrabel	6940	6900	6910	6920
Electrafina	2810	2780	2795	2795
Fortis AG	4300	4255	4285	4255
GIB	1404	1386	1398	1390
GBL	3950	3920	3940	3935
Gen Banque	11300	11225	11225	11250
Gevaert	3200	3170	3195	3160
Kredietbank	9710	9650	9670	9650
Mosane	2360	2300	2300	2400
Petrofina	9500	9440	9490	9440
Powerfin	4500	4460	4500	4480
Recticel	290	285	285	287
Royale Belge	6130	6080	6080	6110
Soc Gen Belg	2400	2380	2390	2400
Solvay	18200	18075	18125	18100
Tessenderlo	10650	10575	10600	10600
Tractebel	13300	13150	13250	13250
UCB	61300	60100	60500	60100
Union Miniere	2280	2265	2270	2265

Copenhagen
Stock Index: 416.10 Previous: 412.23

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Carlsberg B	352	348	352	350
Danisco	320	314	317	313
Den Danske Bk	404	399	402	400
D/S Svendbg A	203000	200000	202750	200000
D/S 1912 A	141176	140000	141176	140000
East Asiatic Co	121.15	117	121	120
FLS Ind B	656	650	650	645
ISS Intl Svc B	137	133	136	134
Nvo Nordisk B	862	857	858	860
Radiometer B	370	370	370	375
Sophus Ber B	784	742.35	782	766
Tele Danmk B	264	257.09	263	261
Unidanmark A	278	273.65	275	276

Frankfurt
DAX: 2538.15 Previous: 2531.89

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
AMB	1100	1099	1100	1095
AEG	148.50	147	150	151
Allianz Hdg	2747	2737	2737	2732
Altana	1129	1091	1121	1094
Badenwerk	555.50	555.50	551	551
BASF	41.39	40.87	41.23	40.27
Bayer Hypo Bk	43.65	43.22	43.50	43.56
Bay.Vereinsbank	52.98	51.85	51.90	52.73
Bayer	51.34	50.92	51.27	50.61
Berliner Kraft	420	415	420	420
BHF Bank	40.30	40	40.10	40.15
BMW	842	838.50	842	837.50
CKAG Colonia	0000	0000	0000	0000
Commerzbank	349.50	347	348.20	350
Daimler Benz	79.25	78.85	78.85	78.67
Degussa	510	493	504.50	492
Deutsche Bank	75	74.60	74.85	75.30
Dresdner Bank	41.50	41.85	41.10	41.35
Heidelbg Zmt	1085	995	1005	1008
Henkel	62.38	61.20	61.50	62.06
Hochtief	67	66	66	64.70
Hoechst	51.29	50.75	51.12	50.22
Holzmann Ph.	379	376	377	374
Karstadt	552	543	543	552.50
Linde	940	930	938	933
Lufthansa ord	207.50	204.50	206	204.70
MAN	367.80	364	367	364.80
Mannesmann	527.50	524	526.50	528
Metro	138.80	137.60	138.10	137.40
Muench Rueck	3595	3535	3550	3570
Preussag	356	354	354	353
PWA	195	193	194	194
RWE	54.05	53.90	53.95	53.78
SAP pfd	233.50	232	232	231
Schering	111.80	110.70	110.98	109.90
Schmalb Lub	273	269	272	266
Siemens	79.90	79.35	79.80	79.45
Suedzucker	760	750	760	740
Thyssen	271.50	268	268	266.70
Veba	77.95	76.75	77	78.67
VEW	473	473	473	481
Viag	568	561	561	567
Volkswagen	523	518	521	513
Wella	878	849.50	876	847

Helsinki
HEX General Index: 2072.15 Previous: 2014.65

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Cultor 1	224	222	224	222
Enso R	37.50	36.80	37.40	36.90
Huhtamaki IF	154	150	150	153
Kesko	71	70	71	70.50
Kone BF	510	505	505	507
Merita A	9.95	9.80	9.90	9.80
Metra BF	230	227	230	227
Metso-Serla B	33.90	33.30	33.80	33
Nokia Prf F	183	162	181	164
Outokumpu A	85	84	85	84.50
Rautaruukki	36.70	36.50	36.70	36.50
Stockmann A	260	260	260	255
UPM-Kymme	100.10	96.60	100	99
Valmet A	73	71	71.50	71.50

Hong Kong
Hang Seng: 11164.48 Previous: 11127.58

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Amoy Props	9.10	9.05	9.10	9.20
Bk East Asia	29.75	29.10	29.70	29.10
Cathay Pacific	13.10	12.80	12.85	13.10
Cheung Kong	55.25	54.75	55	54.75
China Light	33	32.50	32.60	32.70
Chin Estates	6.60	6.55	6.60	6.60
Citic Pacific	34.10	33.70	34	33.70
Cons Elec Pwr	14.35	14.10	14.20	14.10
Dao Heng Bk	30.70	30.30	30.70	30.80
First Pacific	12.50	12.35	12.40	12.55
Great Eagle	22.80	22.60	22.65	22.55
Guangdong Inv	5.55	5.15	5.50	5.10
Guoco Group	38.20	37.80	38	37.90
Hang Lung	14.90	14.80	14.90	14.75
Hang Seng Bk	80	79.50	79.75	79.50
Henderson Inv	7.50	7.35	7.40	7.35
Henderson Ld	58.50	57.75	58.25	58
HKR Intl	9.10	8.95	9	9
HK Aircraft	20.50	20.20	20.45	20.05
HK China Gas	12.50	12.30	12.50	12.20
HK Electric	23.80	23.60	23.70	23.65
HK Shang Hits	13.50	13.40	13.45	13.50
HK Telecomm	13.20	13	13	13.10
Hopewell Hdgs	4.45	4.35	4.40	4.35
HSBC Hdgs	134	132	133.50	132
Hutchison Wh	47.90	47.40	47.50	47.80
Hysan Dev	23.35	23	23.05	22.95
Johnson El 500	17.95	17.85	17.90	18
Miramar Hotel	15.60	15.50	15.60	15.55
Natl Mutual	6.30	6.20	6.25	6.20
New World	36.10	35.80	35.90	35.80
Oriental Press	4.13	4.05	4.13	4.08
Orient Telecom	8.31	8.28	8.28	8.30
Shangri-La	10.25	10.05	10.25	10.05
SHK Props	76.25	75.50	75.75	75.75
Shun Tak Hdgs	4.85	4.78	4.85	4.75
Sino Land Co.	7.65	7.50	7.60	7.60
Sth China Post	5.50	5.35	5.50	5.40
Swire Pac A	67.75	66.75	67	67.25
Tsim Sha Tsui	9.80	9.70	9.80	9.75
TV Broadcasts	30.10	29.70	29.70	29.90
Wharf Hdgs	28.65	28.40	28.45	28.45
Wheelock	14.90	14.80	14.85	14.90

Jakarta
Composite Index: 548.18 Previous: 553.94

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Astra Intl	2325	2300	2300	2325
Barito Pacific	1500	1475	1475	1500
Gudang Garm	8925	8800	8825	8925
Indah Kiat	2150	2100	2125	2200
Indocement	6700	6650	6700	6775
Indofood	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	10000
Indorayon	1875	1825	1825	1900
Indosat	7500	7300	7325	7525
Kalbe Farma	4600	4400	4450	4600
Sampoerna	24000	23675	23725	24000

Johannesburg
All Market: 6663.88 Previous: 6721.07

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
AngloAm-Corp	250	248.75	249.50	250.75
AngloAm Gold	415	413.50	414	416
AngloAm Ind	156	155	156	158
Barlow	42.50	42.10	42.25	42.65
C.G. Smith	22.75	22.50	22.60	22.75
De Beers	131	128.25	129.50	132
Driefontein	61.25	59.50	59.50	61
Freegold	48	47.55	47.55	47.60
Fst Natl Bk	26.45	25.50	26	26.45
Gencor	15.35	14.80	15	15.50
GFSA	136	136	136	136.50
Iscor	2.83	2.75	2.77	2.85
Johnnies Ind	53.25	52.75	52.75	54
Kloof Gold	45.90	45.30	45.30	45.90
Liberty Life	137.75	136	137	137.50
Minorco	97.75	97	97.25	97.50
Nedcor	62.50	61.75	62.25	62.25
Rembrandt Gp	40.75	40.10	40.15	40.25
Richemont	69.25	68.50	69.25	69
Rust Platinum	73.75	71	71	74
SA Breweries	123.25	121.50	122.75	123.50
Sappi	46.10	45.75	45.75	46.30
Sasol	46.55	44	46.55	46.50
SBIC	174.50	173	174.50	174.50
Tiger Oats	57.75	57.50	57.75	58

Kuala Lumpur
Composite: 1109.72 Previous: 1100.13

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Genting	17.90	17.60	17.70	17.60
Hicom Hldgs	7.35	7.15	7.25	7.30
Mal Banking	22.60	22.50	22.60	22.50
Mal Intl Ship F	7.90	7.80	7.85	7.90
Public Bank F	5.05	5	5	5
Resorts World	13.40	13.10	13.10	13.40
Sime Darby	7.80	7.70	7.80	7.80
Telekom Mal	21.40	21.20	21.40	21.20
Tenaga	9.45	9.25	9.30	9.35
Utd Engineers	17.90	17.50	17.50	18

London
FT-SE 100: 3811.40 Previous: 3811.10

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Abbey Natl	5.95	5.89	5.95	5.85
Allied Domecq	4.51	4.05	4.45	4.47
Anglian Water	5.80	5.66	5.74	5.72
Arjo Wiggins	1.76	1.73	1.74	1.75
Asda Group	1.18	1.15	1.16	1.17
Assoc Br Foods	4	3.97	3.99	3.99
BAA	4.80	4.73	4.76	4.75
Barclays	9.05	8.80	8.80	9
Bass	8.22	8.13	8.19	8.16
BAT Ind	5.19	4.77	5.10	5.15
Bank Scotland	2.48	2.45	2.45	2.45
BICC	3.24	3.18	3.23	3.19
Blue Circle	3.75	3.68	3.71	3.63
BOC Group	9.04	8.95	8.96	8.96
Boots	6.17	6.10	6.16	6.15
Bowater	3.74	3.67	3.68	3.73
BPB Ind	3.57	3.52	3.54	3.52
Brit Aerosp	9.40	9.33	9.39	9.26
Brit Airways	5.30	5.20	5.23	5.28
Brit Gas	2.03	1.96	2.02	1.96
Brit Petm	6.09	6	6.03	6.05
Brit Steel	1.85	1.81	1.83	1.85
Brit Telecom	3.90	3.47	3.77	3.77
BTR	2.59	2.48	2.57	2.48
Burmah Cast	10.02	9.90	10.02	9.98
Cable Wireless	4.15	4.05	4.12	4.07
Cadbury Schw	5.20	5.11	5.18	5.17
Caradon	2.04	2.01	2.02	2.02
Carlton Comm	4.75	4.65	4.74	4.72
Coats Viyella	1.64	1.59	1.59	1.60
Comml Union	6.18	6.08	6.11	6.17
Courtaulds	4.52	4.43	4.49	4.47
De La Rue	6.13	6.06	6.11	6.05
Eng China Cl	2.60	2.53	2.55	2.57
Enterprise Oil	4.86	4.78	4.83	4.89
Fam Colonial	1.58	1.56	1.58	1.57
Genl Accident	6.73	6.63	6.69	6.67
GEC	3.87	3.75	3.75	3.77
GKN	10.27	10.14	10.19	10.20
Glaxo	9.05	8.88	8.90	8.98
Granada Gp	8.40	8.32	8.38	8.25
Grand Met	4.52	4.46	4.50	4.51
GRE	2.48	2.42	2.44	2.51
Guinness	4.87	4.73	4.77	4.74
GUS	6.19	6	6.13	6
Hanson	1.67	1.58	1.65	1.58
Hillsdown Hdg	1.83	1.79	1.83	1.82
HSBC Hldgs	11.29	11.18	11.22	11.20
ICI	8.07	7.93	8.01	8
Inchcape	2.74	2.65	2.68	2.63
Kingfisher	6.49	6.35	6.44	6.39
Ladbroke	1.93	1.89	1.92	1.90
Land Sec	6.76	6.68	6.71	6.78
Laporte	7.35	7.25	7.30	7.34
Lasmo	1.87	1.84	1.86	1.86
Legal Genl Grp	7.37	7.21	7.22	7.22
Lloyds Abbey	5.75	5.60	5.60	5.58
Lloyds TSB Gp	3.74	3.45	3.47	3.51
London Elec	6.45	6.35	6.42	6.29
Lucas Ind	2.40	2.31	2.31	2.37
Marks Spencer	4.86	4.80	4.84	4.85
MEPC	4.37	4.28	4.29	4.38
Mercury Asset	9.75	9.45	9.60	9.50
Midlands Elec	4.50	4	4	4
Natl Power	4.46	4.12	4.13	4.16
NatWest	6.62	6.45	6.46	6.63
News Intl	3.69	3.59	3.56	3.56
Utd Utilities	6.07	5.93	6.07	6.01
Nthern Foods	1.91	1.88	1.89	1.91
P&O	5.08	5.02	5.05	5.05
Pearson	6.57	6.43	6.46	6.55
Pilkington	1.97	1.90	1.92	1.94
PowerGen	5.13	5.02	5.11	5.04
Prudential	4.34	4.19	4.24	4.31
Rank Org	4.72	4.38	4.42	4.67
Reckitt Colm	6.74	6.67	6.73	6.70
Redland	4.28	4.20	4.25	4.24
Reed Intl	11.59	11.38	11.47	11.47
Rentokil	4.22	4.06	4.20	4.03
Reuters Hdgs	7.35	7.24	7.33	7.30
RMC Group	10.33	10.23	10.33	10.32
Rolls Royce	2.24	2.21	2.22	2.24
Royal Bk Scot	5.13	5.04	5.04	5.12
RTZ reg	9.27	9.20	9.25	9.21
Royal & Sun All	3.96	3.90	3.93	3.92
Safeway	3.45	3.41	3.44	3.43
Sainsbury	4.03	3.94	3.94	4
Schroders	13.69	12.83	13.35	12.88
Scot Newcastle	6.59	6.48	6.57	6.50
Scot Power	3.29	3.20	3.25	3.20
Sears	0.98	0.96	0.96	0.96
Severn Trent	6.15	5.93	6.01	5.95
Shell Trsp reg	9.43	9.23	9.27	9.35
Siebe	9	8.93	8.97	8.96
Smith Nephew	1.98	1.96	1.96	1.97
Smith (WH)	4.89	4.85	4.89	4.85
SmithKline	7.06	6.97	6.99	7.05
Smiths Ind	7.40	7.30	7.35	7.32
Sthern Elec	6.90	6.17	6.87	6.82
Stand Charter	7.13	6.99	7.10	6.97
Tate & Lyle	4.70	4.65	4.67	4.64
Tesco	3	2.95	2.99	2.94
Thames Water	5.64	5.48	5.60	5.50
Thorn EMI	17.97	17.84	17.89	17.85
3i Group	4.47	4.42	4.44	4.44
TI Group	5.18	5.07	5.18	5.12
Tomkins	2.70	2.60	2.60	2.67
Unilever	12.63	12.44	12.46	12.60
Utd Biscuits	2.15	2.11	2.11	2.12
Utd News	6.84	6.59	6.77	6.57
Vendome uts	5.91	5.85	5.90	5.85
Vodafone	2.47	2.43	2.44	2.44
Whitbread	6.98	6.87	6.96	6.87
Williams Hdgs	3.40	3.35	3.39	3.38
Wolseley	4.42	4.33	4.41	4.35
Zeneca	14.30	14.17	14.23	14.20

Madrid
Bolsa Index: 357.61 Previous: 357.87

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Acerinox	12970	12690	12900	12990
ACESA	1395	1370	1380	1395
Argentaria	5090	5010	5090	5030
BBV	5430	5370	5400	5400
Banesto	821	813	815	821
Bankinter	14650	14600	14650	14650
Bco Centro Hisp	2575	2535	2575	2550
Bco Exterior	2815	2810	2815	2815
Bco Popular	21750	21620	21700	21750
Bco Santander	6360	6280	6320	6240
CEPSA	3950	3860	3900	3930
Corp Mapfre	5870	5710	5860	5780
Dragados	1600	1590	1590	1595
Endesa	7610	7530	7560	7590
FECSA	955	937	940	952
Fomento Const	10510	10350	10510	10500
Gas Natural	25380	25020	25150	25170
Hidrocl Cantab	4175	4140	4140	4180
Iberdrola	1185	1160	1180	1175
Pryca	2998	2945	2965	2985
Repsol	4155	4120	4130	4160
Sevillana Elec	1055	1025	1050	1045
Tabacalera	5230	5100	5160	5070
Telefonica	2275	2250	2260	2270
Union Fenosa	768	758	760	768
Valenc Cement	1320	1310	1320	1310

Manila
PSE Index: 3112.79 Previous: 3128.82

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Ayala A	18.25	17.75	18.25	17.75
Ayala Land	31	30.50	31	31
Manila Elec A	108	107	108	108
Metro Bank	580	555	555	580
Petron	11.25	10.75	11	11
Phil Long Dist	1555	1545	1545	1565
San Miguel A	42	41	41.50	40.50
San Miguel B	79.50	78.50	79	79
SM Prime Hdg	6.60	6.50	6.50	6.50

Mexico
Bolsa Index: 3185.40 Previous: 3180.80

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Alfa A	32.35	31.90	32.35	32.10
Cemex B	29.10	28.60	29.00	29.00
Cifra C	11.50	11.22	11.50	11.24
Empresas ICA	111.00	110.30	110.70	111.50
Emp Modema	34.90	34.40	34.40	34.95
Femsa	22.00	21.55	22.00	21.80
Gpo Carso A1	34.30	33.75	33.95	34.40
Televisa CPO	109.30	108.50	109.30	109.00
TelMex L	11.92	11.86	11.92	11.94
Tribasa	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.70

Milan
MIB Telematico: 9662.00 Previous: 9635.00

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Alleanza Assic	12200	11960	12170	12070
Bca Comm Ital	2950	2900	2950	2875
Bco Naz Agricol	810	805	810	815
Bca Naz Lavoro	11020	10900	10960	10950
Bco di Roma	1242	1222	1230	1230
Bco Ambrosiano	3895	3830	3885	3850
Benetton	17600	17280	17300	17515
Credito Italiano	1731	1700	1709	1700
Fiat	4855	4805	4840	4855
Fondiaria	6700	6500	6690	6580
Generali Assic	35450	34900	35400	35000
IFIL	4050	3940	4000	3960
Italcementi	10620	10420	10485	10500
Italgas	5260	5150	5195	5190
Mediobanca	8940	8610	8760	8550
Montedison	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	795
Olivetti	757	749	753	750
Pirelli	2485	2450	2485	2485
RAS	14500	14150	14500	14348
Rinascente	9500	9350	9500	9450
S Paolo Torino	9200	9005	9145	9200
SME	2010	2010	2010	2190
Sirti	13800	13600	13600	13700
Stet	4835	4765	4805	4765
Telecom Italia	2920	2875	2905	2875
Toro Assic	17595	17400	17595	17700

Montreal
Industrials Index: 2328.61 Previous: 2337.71

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Alco 1	20.20	20.15	20.20	20.15
Bank Montreal	33.35	33.10	33.30	33.10
Bce Mob Com	42.15	42	42	42.15
Cdn Tire A	16.90	16.90	16.90	16.85
Cdn Util A	28½	28.45	28½	28.40
Cascades	5.60	5.55	5.55	5.55
CT Finl Svc	26	26	26.25	26
Extendicare	16½	16½	16½	16½
Gaz Metro	15.65	15.55	15.65	15.55
Gt-West Lifeco	35½	35½	35½	35
Hees Intl Bcp	16.10	16	16.10	15.85
Hudsons Bay	20.90	20.80	20.85	20.80
Imasco	28	27.85	28	27.90
Investors Grp	18	18	18	18
Loblaw Cos	11.60	11.50	11.55	11.50
Molson A	20.55	20½	20½	20.45
Natl Bk Canada	11½	11.35	11½	11.35
Oshawa A	20.45	20.30	20.35	20.40
Pancdn Petlm	48.80	48	48.80	48
Power Corp	23	22¾	22.80	22.95
Power Finl	39	38.90	38.95	38½
Quebecor B	21.55	21.45	21½	21.60
Rogers Comm B	11½	11.30	11.35	11¼
Royal Bk Cda	34.35	34.20	34.30	34.20
Sears Canada	7.70	7.65	7.70	7.70
Shell Cda A	47	47	47	45¼
Southam	16.15	16.15	16.15	16
Stelco A	6.15	6.10	6.15	6.15
Trilon Finl A	5½	5.45	5.45	5.45

Oslo
OBX Index: 451.12 Previous: 450.14

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Aker A	131	129	129	129
Bergesen Dy B	136	134	134	135
Christiania Bk	16.50	16.20	16.40	16.30
Den norske Bk	21	20.70	21	20.80
SAS Norge ASA	65.50	64.50	64.50	66
Dyno Indust	138.50	137.50	138.50	137.50
Elkem	88	87.50	87.50	87.50
Hafslund A	47.50	47	47.50	47.50
Kvaerner	245	241.50	241.50	242
Leif Hoegh	111	109	111	112
Norsk Hydro	293	289	290.50	290
Norske Skog A	192.50	191.50	192	193
Orkla	346.50	345	345.50	347
Rieber B	138	136	138	133.50
Saga Petlm B	88	87	88	87
Schibsted	92	91.50	92	91
UniStorebr A	34.90	34.40	34.80	34.80

Paris
CAC-40: 1997.42 Previous: 1996.74

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Accor	638	613	624	640
AGF	137.20	136	136.40	136.90
Air Liquide	873	864	873	870
Alcatel Alsth	407.80	403	406.90	403
Axa	283.80	280.40	281.10	280.40
Bancaire	538	528	528	530
BNP	178.50	176.20	177.50	176.70
Bouygues	541	528	534	541
Canal Plus	1178	1160	1175	1165
Carrefour	2712	2672	2678	2695
CCF	240.80	237	238.50	241
Credit Local Cl	414.80	410.50	412.20	413.50
Credit Lyon PC	127.90	122	122	128
Crown Cork Seal	237.10	235	235	236.10
Danone	735	729	733	731
Elf-Aquitaine	366.20	363	363.40	365.70
Eridania BS	737	718	722	735
Euro Disney	12.20	12	12	12
Eurotunnel uts	8.45	8.10	8.15	8.45
Gen. Eaux	528	522	524	524
Havas	356	347.50	350	355
Lafarge Cop	299	297.80	299	297.40
Legrand	844	821	824	838
L'Oreal	1576	1542	1570	1548
LVMH	1147	1129	1132	1129
Lyon. Eaux	466.80	463	465	467
Michelin B	239	235.30	236.50	235.70
Navig Mixte	737	735	735	736
Paribas A	319.90	310.50	315.80	309.70
Pechiney SA	213.90	207.50	210.70	208.80
Pernod Ricard	308.80	305	306	305.40
Peugeot Cit	602	592	596	597
Pinault-Print	1714	1675	1704	1684
Promodes	1320	1291	1302	1320
Renault	112.50	110.10	112.50	112.30
Rh-Poulenc A	129.30	128.40	128.80	128.90
Roussel-Uclaf	1140	1130	1138	1138
Sanofi	382.20	379.20	379.80	381
Schneider	230.60	228.30	230.30	230.10
Ste Generale	554	546	553	544
St Gobain	623	620	622	622
St Louis	1290	1275	1279	1285
Suez	178	175.60	177.20	175.70
Thomson CSF	136.50	136	136	136
Total B	359.90	355.20	359	360
UAP	103.70	101	101.60	103.50
Valeo	263.50	262	263	262.90

São Paulo
Bovespa Index: 62880.40 Previous: 61652.60

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Bco Brasil Pfd	9.30	9.10	9.30	9.30
Banespa Pfd	3.55	3.50	3.55	3.54
Bradesco Pfd	8.25	8.20	8.25	8.30
Brahma Pfd	645.00	642.00	645.00	644.00
Cemig Pfd	29.70	29.51	29.70	29.65
CESP Pfd	30.00	29.30	29.50	29.49
Eletrobras B	278.00	276.00	277.00	280.00
Itaubanco Pfd	415.00	411.00	411.00	420.00
Light	277.00	274.01	277.00	275.00
Paranapan Pfd	6.90	6.50	6.85	6.35
Petrobras Pfd	124.00	121.00	121.55	123.50
Sid Nacional	22.50	22.20	22.30	22.20
Souza Cruz	8.15	8.14	8.15	8.29
Telebras Pfd	75.00	73.50	75.00	73.80
Telesp Pfd	191.00	190.00	191.00	190.00
Usiminas Pfd	1.11	1.09	1.11	1.12
CVRD Pfd	19.45	19.25	19.30	19.30

Seoul
Composite Index: 837.20 Previous: 834.83

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Daewoo Heavy	6300	6050	6060	6200
Hyundai Eng	33700	32900	33400	33300
Hyundai Motor	32100	31200	32000	31700
Korea El Pwr	26900	26400	26600	26600
Korea Mob Tel	700000	695000	695000	695000
LG Electronics	16200	15500	16000	15500
Pohang Iron St	51500	50500	51000	51200
Samsung Elec	75400	71600	73800	71300
Samsung Hvy	11800	11400	11700	11600
Yukong	22800	22400	22600	22500

Singapore
Straits Times: 2129.04 Previous: 2134.51

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Cerebos Pac	12	11.90	12	11.90
City Devits	11.30	11.10	11.30	11.10
Cycle Carriage	13.30	13.20	13.30	13.50
Dairy Farm Intl *	0.80	0.79	0.80	0.80
DBS	9.95	9	9	9.05
DBS Land	4.66	4.56	4.58	4.68
Fraser & Neave	14.40	13.70	13.80	14.30
HK Land *	2.26	2.24	2.25	2.25
Hong Leong Fin	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	3.50
Jard Matheson *	6.45	6.40	6.40	6.45
Jard Strategic *	3.18	3.16	3.18	3.18
Keppel	10.40	10.30	10.40	10.30
Natsteel	2.36	2.32	2.32	2.30
Neptune Orient	1.39	1.36	1.39	1.38
OCBC foreign	16.30	16.10	16.20	16.20
O'Seas Union Bk	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.55
Sembawang	6.10	6	6.10	6.05
Sing Airlines F	14.50	14.10	14.10	14.50
Sing Petlm	1.68	1.68	1.68	1.66
Sing Press F	25.20	25	25.10	25.20
ST Auto F	2.80	2.78	2.78	2.80
ST Ship	2.18	2.16	2.17	2.24
Sing Telecomm	3.58	3.42	3.56	3.42
Straits Steam	4.54	4.42	4.54	4.40
Utd Industrial	1.29	1.28	1.28	1.30
Utd O'Sea Bk F	13.40	13.30	13.40	13.30
Wing Tai Hdgs	2.96	2.90	2.92	2.90

*: in U.S. dollars.

Stockholm
SX 16 Index: 2035.47 Previous: 2029.09

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
AGA BF	109	108	108.50	108.50
ABB AF	730	702	718	700
AssiDoman F	157	154	156.50	154.50
Astra AF	282	276.50	277	280
Atlas Copco AF	120	118	119.50	119
Avesta F	65	64	64	65
Electrolux BF	368	356.50	356.50	366
Ericsson BF	144	137.50	141	138
Hennes BF	633	626	629	628
Incentive AF	370	355	365	355
Investor BF	243	238.50	239.50	240
Kinnevik BF	191	187	187.50	188
MoDo BF	176	172.50	175	174
Sandvik BF	147	143.50	145.50	144.50
SCA BF	140	137	139	138
S-E Banken AF	58	56.50	57.50	57
Skandia Fors F	168	167	167	167.50
Skanska BF	245	238.50	243	238.50
SKF BF	148	144.50	146.50	145.50
SSAB BF	86.50	84.50	84.50	86.50
Stora AF	86	84	84.50	85
Sv Handles AF	146	144	145.50	144.50
Sydkraft AF	147	146	147	146
Trelleborg BF	84	83	83	83.50
Volvo BF	144.50	143	143	144

Sydney
All Ordinaries: 2226.60 Previous: 2221.80

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Amcor	8.29	8.22	8.22	8.29
ANZ Bkng	6.55	6.49	6.55	6.49
BHP	17.20	16.95	17.04	16.92
Boral	3.22	3.17	3.19	3.18
Brambles Ind.	18.65	18.55	18.64	18.55
Burns Philp	2.23	2.21	2.22	2.23
CBA	10.75	10.65	10.65	10.66
CC Amatil	15.70	14.99	15.55	15.15
Coles Myer	4.50	4.42	4.42	4.48
Comalco	7.25	7.15	7.24	7.25
CRA Ltd	18.70	18.39	18.59	18.42
CSR	4.47	4.38	4.42	4.39
Fosters Brew	2.26	2.21	2.25	2.22
GIO Australia	3.10	3.07	3.07	3.08
Goodman Fld	1.31	1.29	1.30	1.31
ICI Australia	11.58	11.40	11.48	11.55
John Fairfax	2.52	2.50	2.50	2.50
Lend Lease	20.24	20	20	20.11
Mayne Nickless	7.45	7.41	7.42	7.41
MIM Hdgs	1.53	1.51	1.53	1.53
Nat Aust Bank	12.16	12	12	12.04
News Corp	6.63	6.54	6.58	6.58
North Ltd	3.49	3.46	3.48	3.48
Pacific Dunlop	2.83	2.79	2.81	2.86
Pioneer Intl	3.69	3.65	3.67	3.65
Placer Pacific	1.82	1.77	1.77	1.82
Santos	4.71	4.66	4.67	4.72
Southcorp	3.31	3.28	3.28	3.28
Wesfarmers	7.70	7.50	7.60	7.69
Wstrn Mining	8.43	8.25	8.40	8.24
Westfield Trt	2.34	2.30	2.30	2.32
Westpac Bkng	5.96	5.89	5.90	5.89
Woodside Ptl	7.82	7.73	7.73	7.80
Woolworths	3.06	3.02	3.03	3.06

Taipei
Stock Market Index: 6341.93 Previous: 6261.46

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Asia Cement	51.50	50.50	51	50
Cathay Life Ins	169	166	166	165
Chang Hwa Bk	163	159	159	158
China Steel	27.30	26.80	26.90	26.60
China Trust	52	50.50	50.50	50.50
Evergreen	51.50	50.50	50.50	50.50
Far East Text	30.90	30.30	30.30	30.30
First Bank	166	162	164	161
Formosa CF	33.20	31.80	33.10	31.70
Hua Nan Bk	142	139	139.50	137
Hualon Teijran	24.30	23.80	24.10	23.70
ICBC	82.50	79.50	80.50	80
President Ent	41.20	40.40	40.60	40.30
Taiwan Cemt	56.50	55.50	56	55
Tatung	59	58	58	58

Tokyo
Nikkei 225: 20731.31 Previous: 20477.68

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Ajinomoto	1200	1190	1200	1180
All Nippon Air	1140	1130	1140	1120
Asahi Bank	1200	1190	1200	1180
Asahi Chem	736	731	735	737
Asahi Glass	1220	1200	1210	1190
Bk Tokyo Mitsu	2270	2250	2260	2250
Bk Yokohama	920	900	906	902
Bridgestone	1920	1900	1910	1910
Canon	2040	2020	2040	2010
Chiba Bank	905	900	904	905
Chubu Elec	2440	2410	2420	2400
Chugoku Elec	2330	2310	2320	2320
Daiei	1190	1150	1170	1170
Daiichi Kang	1840	1820	1830	1810
Daiwa Bank	715	701	701	707
Daiwa House	1620	1610	1610	1610
Daiwa Sec	1260	1250	1260	1250
Fanuc	4080	4010	4010	4060
Fuji Bank	2040	2030	2040	2030
Fuji Photo	3250	3200	3220	3210
Fujitsu	961	948	961	944
Hitachi	1010	996	1000	995
Honda Motor	2540	2520	2540	2520
IBJ	2270	2230	2240	2270
IHI	525	520	523	520
Itochu	690	680	690	690
Ito-Yokado	6100	6030	6030	6060
JAL	867	858	863	870
Jusco	3460	3390	3400	3450
Kajima	1030	1020	1020	1010
Kansai Elec	2410	2390	2400	2390
Kao	1390	1370	1380	1380
Kawa Steel	377	373	373	372
KDD	12100	11500	11900	11900
Kinki Nipp Ry	772	768	770	771
Kirin Brewery	1240	1210	1240	1200
Kobe Steel	295	287	290	286
Komatsu	963	951	952	962
Kubota	678	671	671	678
Kyocera	7470	7370	7400	7400
Kyushu Elec	2370	2360	2370	2360
LTCB	754	747	754	745
Marubeni	562	552	562	551
Marui	2230	2200	2210	2210
Matsu Elec Ind	1860	1840	1850	1860
Matsu Elec Wk	1100	1090	1100	1090
Mitsubishi	1340	1320	1340	1310
Mitsubishi Ch	493	485	493	494
Mitsubishi El	703	692	701	686
Mitsubishi Est	1410	1380	1390	1400
Mitsubishi Hvy	901	895	898	905
Mitsubishi Mat	911	905	911	909
Mitsubishi Tr	1710	1680	1690	1660
Mitsui	962	955	962	954
Mitsui Fudosn	1410	1380	1400	1380
Mitsui Trust	1130	1100	1100	1090
Murata Mfg	3970	3920	3950	3890
NEC	1150	1120	1140	1110
New Oji Paper	914	904	909	913
Nikko Sec	1120	1100	1120	1090
Nintendo	7400	7380	7380	7310
Nipp Credit Bk	370	358	365	370
Nipp Express	994	988	994	991
Nippon Oil	693	686	688	688
Nippon Paper	680	668	680	667
Nippon Steel	353	349	350	353
Nippon Yusen	590	587	589	586
Nippondenso	2250	2220	2220	2230
Nissan Motor	844	828	835	835
NKK	296	293	295	291
Nomura Sec	1930	1900	1910	1890
NTT	7700a	7630a	7660a	7690a
Obayashi	916	908	916	903
Odakyu El Ry	710	703	706	701
Ono Pharm	3720	3660	3660	3690
Osaka Gas	398	387	398	385
Ricoh	1100	1090	1090	1080
Sakura Bk	1050	1030	1040	1030
Sankyo	2680	2640	2670	2640
Sanwa Bank	1840	1820	1840	1820
Sanyo Elec	592	583	590	586
Secom	6970	6940	6970	6940
Seibu Rwy	5950	5700	5940	5690
Sekisui House	1190	1170	1170	1170
Seven-Eleven	6800	6740	6800	6720
Sharp	1760	1730	1750	1740
Shimizu	1100	1080	1090	1070
Shin-etsu Ch	1900	1890	1900	1890
Shizuoka Bk	1280	1240	1280	1240
Sony	6860	6800	6850	6790
Sumitomo	960	952	956	955
Sumitomo Bk	1990	1970	1980	1960
Sumit Chem	509	501	509	503
Sumitomo Elec	1490	1470	1480	1480
Sumit Metal	310	306	307	310
Sumit Trust	1340	1310	1320	1310
Taisei	723	712	722	712
Taisho Pharm	2320	2270	2290	2300
Takeda Chem	1760	1720	1720	1770
TDK	6200	6130	6150	6100
Tohoku El Pwr	2370	2350	2350	2350
Tokai Bank	1330	1300	1320	1290
Tokio Marine	1290	1260	1260	1280
Tokyo El Pwr	2700	2670	2700	2670
Tokyo Gas	383	376	383	378
Tokyu	731	714	719	723
Tonen	1520	1490	1510	1500
Toppan Print	1480	1460	1480	1470
Toray Ind	706	698	700	702
Toshiba	719	707	716	703
Toyo Seikan	3670	3550	3640	3530
Toyo Trust	1040	1010	1030	1040
Toyota Motor	2660	2620	2640	2610
Yamaichi Sec	680	671	678	680
Yamanouchi	2270	2250	2270	2250
Yasuda Fire	746	735	735	746
Yasuda Trust	602	598	600	596

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Toronto
TSE Industrials: 5041.71 Previous: 5031.75

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Abitibi Price	18.10	17.85	17.90	17.90
Air Canada	4.30	4.20	4¼	4.20
Alberta Energy	25.05	24.90	25	25
Alcan Alum	41.95	41.80	41.80	41.90
Avenor A	21.95	21.85	21.90	21.85
Bk Nova Scotia	34	33.70	33.90	33.70
Barrick Gold	39¼	38¾	39¼	38.85
BCE	55.20	54.90	55	55.15
BC Telecomm	27½	27¼	27.40	27¼
Bombardier B	17.90	17.60	17.70	17.90
Brascan A	26.10	26	26	26.10
Cameco	65	64¾	65	64.80
CIBC	46.15	45.90	46	45.90
Cdn Airlines	2.10	1.85	1⅞	2.07
Cdn Nat Res	26.20	25.90	26.15	25.90
Cdn Occid Pet	21½	21.35	21.35	21.45
Cdn Pacific	30.10	29¾	29¾	29.95
Cominco	28.60	28.10	28½	28¼
Consumers Gas	22.05	21.70	21¾	21½
Dofasco	21.35	21.20	21.35	21.30
Domtar Inc	8.60	8.60	8.60	8.60
Du Pont Cda A	28¼	27¾	28.10	27¾
Echo Bay Min	14.40	14.10	14.40	14.20
Empire Co. A	13.20	13.20	13.20	13¼
Falconbridge	29	28.80	28.85	28.85
Fletcher Chall A	18.90	18.80	18.90	18.80
Franco Nevada	43	42½	42.95	42½
Guardian Cap A	9.10	9.10	9.10	9
Horsham	17.85	17.80	17.85	17.80
Imperial Oil	57	56.70	56.95	57.05
Inco	42.70	42.40	42½	42.70
IPL Energy	36.20	36	36.10	36.20
Laidlaw A	12.60	12.60	12.60	12½
Laidlaw B	12¾	12.55	12.70	12.65
Loewen Group	40.20	40	40.20	40
Ldn Insur Gp	29½	29¼	29½	29.20
Macmill Bld	19.05	18.60	19.05	18.60
Magna Intl A	63½	62	63.30	62.40
Maple Leaf Fds	7.05	7	7	7
Moore	24.80	24.65	24¾	24.80
Newbridge Net	65	63¾	64.05	64.95
Noranda Inc	28.15	28	28.10	28.10
Noranda Forest	8.95	8¾	8.90	9.05
Norcen Energy	24.60	24½	24½	24.55
Nthern Telecom	67.80	66.90	67¼	67.70
Nova	12.05	11.90	11.95	11.90
Onex	14.35	14	14.20	14
Placer Dome	34.20	33.55	34.15	33¼
Potash Sask	93.90	93.15	93.90	95.55
Provigo	7.30	7¼	7¼	7.40
Quebecor Print	23	22.95	22.95	22.95
Renaissance	35.80	35.35	35.80	35.60
Rio Algom	26.95	26	26.95	26½
Seagram Co	47.45	47.10	47.10	47.15
Stone Consold	15.80	15.70	15.70	15.70
Talisman Eny	33¼	33	33¼	33.10
Teleglobe	25¼	23¾	25.20	23.60
Telus	19.20	19.05	19.20	19.10
Thomson	23.60	22.95	23½	23
TorDom Bank	26.80	26.55	26.70	26.60
Transalta	15.20	15.10	15.20	15.15
TransCda Pipe	21½	21.40	21.45	21.45
Utd Dominion	29	28¾	28.90	29
Westburn	9.90	9.80	9.80	9.90
Westcoast Eny	21¼	21.15	21½	21¼
Weston	49	49	49	49

Vienna
ATX Index: 1028.02 Previous: 1027.48

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Aust Airlines	1430	1430	1550	1550
Brau-Un Goess	650	635	650	640
Bund Vers Pfd	421	421	490	490
Creditanst Pfd	500	488.80	496	504
EA-Generali	3029	3000	3019	3014
EVN	1450	1424	1450	1427
Interunfall	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	1518
Lenzing	669	655	665	684
Leykam	290	278	290	280
Mayr-Melnhof	462	459	460	462
OMV	989	984	985	983
Oest Brau	654	631.25	650	635.05
Oest Elektriz	774.10	769	773	773
VA Tech	1334.50	1318	1332	1321
Wienerberger	1910	1887	1910	1893

Wellington
NZSE-40 Index: 2168.47 Previous: 2171.55

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Air N Zeald B	3.17	3.12	3.12	3.18
Brierly Invt	1.43	1.42	1.42	1.42
Carter Holt ord	3.23	3.20	3.23	3.25
Fernz	4.50	4.48	4.50	4.48
Fisher Paykel	4.72	4.60	4.70	4.60
FC Forest	1.84	1.81	1.82	1.84
Goodman Fder	1.47	1.46	1.46	1.46
Indep News	5.20	5.20	5.20	5.20
Lion Nathan	3.90	3.86	3.87	3.90
Nat Gas note	2.16	2.14	2.16	2.14
NZ Refining	26.50	26.50	26.50	26.40
Telecom NZ	6.66	6.60	6.62	6.66
Wilson Horton	9.65	9.50	9.50	9.70

Zurich
SPI Index: 2345.93 Previous: 2349.34

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Adia B	330	317	325	317
Alusuisse R	985	977	978	980
Ares-Serono B	1049	1040	1049	1040
Baloise Hdg R	2465	2440	2445	2445
ABB B	1524	1482	1492	1483
BK Vision	1460	1440	1445	1455
Bobst B	1700	1685	1690	1690
Ciba Geigy R	1500	1488	1497	1500
CS Holdings R	132.25	130	130.75	131
Elektrowatt B	451	447	449	448
Fischer B	1269	1250	1260	1261
Hilti PC	890	875	890	870
Holderbank B	926	918	919	924
Jul. Baer Hdg B	1363	1350	1359	1344
Merkur Hdg R	227	217	219	220
Nestle R	1419	1410	1415	1415
Oerlikon R	119.50	115	115	118.50
Pargesa Hld B	1375	1375	1375	1375
PharmVisn B	5800	5685	5720	6000
Pirelli B	154	154	154	154
Roche Hdg PC	9265	9215	9230	9260
Sandoz R	1408	1398	1404	1407
SBC R	242	238.50	238.75	240.25
Schindler B	1230	1194	1210	1181
SGS B	2770	2740	2740	2775
SMH B	819	803	814	816
Sulzer R	758	750	753	754
Swiss Reins R	1252	1235	1240	1247
Swissair R	1148	1126	1130	1149
UBS B	1197	1185	1191	1197
Winterthur R	749	737	738	739
Zurich Assur R	330	325	327	328

NYSE

Thursday's 4 p.m. Close

Nationwide prices, not reflecting late trades elsewhere.
The Associated Press.

Continued on Page 18

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هكذا من الأصل

ASIA/PACIFIC

Asian States Weigh Idea of Central Bank To Help Avert Crises

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

MELBOURNE — Asia could develop its own central bank within three to five years to help protect the region from financial crises, the head of Australia's central bank said Thursday.

Bernie Fraser, who as governor of the Reserve Bank of Australia has pursued closer cooperation between Asian central banks, questioned the ability of multilateral monetary authorities to react to regional crises, such as major attacks on a local currency.

"The existing international institutional arrangements are not keeping up with these market developments," he said.

Mr. Fraser said Asian central banks were moving toward setting up the equivalent of the Bank of International Settlements, the Switzerland-based bank that acts as an international monetary authority for mostly Western central banks.

"I would not be surprised to see an Asian BIS institution established in the next three to five years," Mr. Fraser told academics and financial market professionals in Melbourne.

Eleven Asian central banks — members of the Executives Meeting of East Asian and Pacific Central Banks — recently decided to set up permanent working groups to discuss ways of enhancing cooperation. The members are from Australia, Japan, Indonesia, South Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, China and Hong Kong.

The governors of the 11 banks have agreed to meet at least once a year and to hold their next meeting in China, Mr. Fraser said.

Asian central banks are already negotiating repurchase agreements through the Executives Meeting forum, giving them access to the financial resources needed to defend local currencies during a flight of capital.

Separately, Asia-Pacific business leaders are to meet in Hawaii next week to launch work on a blueprint to hasten trade and investment liberalization in the region, officials in Singapore said Thursday. The blueprint would incorporate strategies to open up businesses in such areas as infrastructure, small and medium enterprises and human resources development, and finance and investment.

The leaders from the newly established business advisory council of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum also hope to devise measures such as customs procedures to quicken the flow of cross-border business. *(Reuters, AFP)*

Malaysia to Allow Foreign Firms to List Their Shares

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

KUALA LUMPUR — In a move to further reform its financial system, Malaysia will allow the listing of foreign companies on its stock exchange, Deputy Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim said Thursday.

The move is in line with the government's plan to liberalize Malaysia's capital market and develop Kuala Lumpur as a regional financial center, said Mr. Anwar, who is also finance minister.

One analyst said the timing was right because the city could "attract companies looking to relocate funds out of Hong Kong ahead of the 1997 takeover by China."

At first, "foreign companies with substantial foreign assets or operations but owned and/or controlled by Malaysians" will be able to apply for listing, Mr. Anwar said.

"These must be primary listings or companies which may be listed elsewhere but intend to shift their primary listings to the KLSE," he added. "The shares of these companies will be listed and traded in ringgit."

Detailed conditions will be announced at an appropriate time, Mr. Anwar said, adding that they would be stiff to ensure the market's credibility. *(AFP, Reuters)*

Daewoo Sets Sights On U.S. Auto Market

Novel Approach Targets Universities

By Keith Bradsher
New York Times Service

As part of its plan to become one of the world's top automakers by 2000, the Daewoo group of companies plans to enter the U.S. car market by opening as many as 500 company-owned sales outlets near college campuses.

The sales tactics South Korea's fourth-largest conglomerate plans to use represent a break with auto marketing and distribution practices in the United States. U.S. and foreign manufacturers currently supply the North American market by selling their cars and trucks to independent dealers.

While the major automakers have discount programs for college students, Daewoo said that it planned to focus almost exclusively on college students, professors and their families, clearly a novel approach. The industry's pattern has been to distribute by geographic areas, rather than by the occupation of the buyers.

South Korea's Kia Motors Corp., for example, is in the process of trying to elbow its way into the U.S. market by first selling its small, inexpensive cars on both U.S. coasts.

Kim Woo Choong, Daewoo's chairman, said the company planned to enter the U.S. market in late 1997 or early 1998 and sell 100,000 cars a year by 2000. That is about two-thirds of 1 percent of the U.S. car and light truck market, or about the same share as Volkswagen AG.

While cautioning that the company might yet change its plans, Mr. Kim said that Daewoo currently intended to lure young people with affordable cars and then try to sell them more elaborate vehicles as they grow older.

Mr. Kim spoke to several reporters in Traverse City, Michigan after delivering a speech at an auto industry conference organized by the University of Michigan.

Daewoo's cars will be similar in size to Chrysler Corp.'s $11,000 Plymouth Neon, said Kyung Hoon Lee, the chairman of Daewoo's U.S. operations. The company plans three models for the United States, said Mr. Kim, who declined to predict the prices of the Daewoo cars.

Cars are commonly sold through company-owned sales outlets in Asia, including South Korea, and Daewoo has already begun selling cars through company-owned sales outlets in Britain. The strategy has attracted considerable attention from Detroit's Big Three automakers.

Mr. Kim said that Daewoo had found that owning its outlets helped the company hold down distribution costs, which account for as much as a fifth of the cost of a car sold through a dealership. The outlets also keep customers happier, he said.

Daewoo is also studying ways to sell cars directly to customers in Korea and the United States using the Internet, Mr. Kim said. Detroit's Big Three automakers have also been studying this option but have been reluctant to pursue it for fear of angering dealers who would resent being bypassed.

John P. Peterson, the president of the National Automobile Dealers Association, said he was not aware of any other automakers selling cars or light trucks through company-owned sales outlets in the United States. He declined to respond to Mr. Kim's comments Wednesday, saying that he would wait for a formal announcement.

Many states have laws barring auto companies from selling cars directly to the public in competition with their franchised dealers. Often the result of intense lobbying by car dealers, these laws are designed to prevent automakers from putting their dealers out of business by favoring their own sales outlets with popular vehicles in short supply.

But it is not clear whether these laws would apply to an automaker with no franchised dealers, said James A. Moors, an attorney at the trade group who specializes in auto franchise agreements.

Court Allows San Miguel Control Bid

The Associated Press

MANILA — The Supreme Court on Thursday allowed a close associate of former President Ferdinand Marcos to renew his bid to take control of San Miguel Corp., the Philippines' largest beer maker.

The court ordered a special government court to "to give due course" to Eduardo Cojuangco Jr.'s bid to remove five government nominees from San Miguel's board.

If the graft court should decide in Mr. Cojuangco's favor and give him control of the five seats, he would effectively control the biggest block of seats on the 15-member board of the beer and food maker.

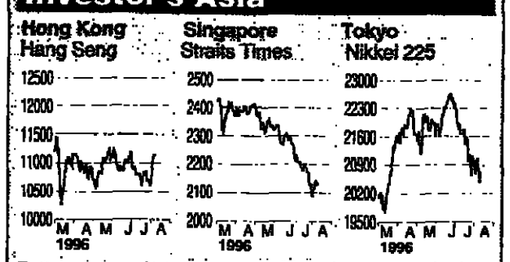
The five nominees installed by the Presidential Commission on Good Government represent shares held by 43 Cojuangco-owned companies that were sequestered by the commission on charges that Mr. Cojuangco acquired them inappropriately.

The commission is a government agency trying to recover billions of dollars of "ill-gotten wealth" allegedly accumulated by Mr. Marcos in his 20-year presidency.

Mr. Cojuangco is alleged to have amassed his own wealth through his close association with Mr. Marcos.

It was the second setback from the Supreme Court in two days for the government's attempts to recover "ill-gotten wealth." On Wednesday, the court declared "faulty and incomplete" a suit by the commission on good government to sequester 40 corporations of the tycoon Lucio Tan.

Investor's Asia



Exchange	Index	Thursday Close	Prev. Close	% Change
Hong Kong	Hang Seng	11,164.40	11,127.50	+0.33
Singapore	Straits Times	2,129.04	2,134.51	-0.26
Sydney	All Ordinaries	2,226.60	2,221.80	+0.22
Tokyo	Nikkei 225	20,731.31	20,477.54	+1.24
Kuala Lumpur	Composite	1,100.72	1,100.13	+0.05
Bangkok	SET	1,130.42	1,133.33	-0.26
Seoul	Composite Index	837.20	834.03	+0.38
Taipei	Stock Market Index	6,341.93	6,261.48	+1.29
Manila	PSE	3,112.79	3,128.82	-0.51
Jakarta	Composite Index	548.18	553.94	-1.04
Wellington	NZSE-40	2,160.47	2,171.55	-0.51
Bombay	Sensitive Index	3,509.18	3,543.44	-0.97

Source: Telekurs International Herald Tribune

Very briefly:

- **Societe Generale de Paris** bought a majority stake in **Crosby Securities Ltd.** in Hong Kong.
- **Morgan Stanley Asia Ltd.** denied published reports that the Hong Kong market might soon be dropped from the developed country category to the status of an emerging market.
- **Indonesia** recorded a trade surplus of $203 million in May, narrowed from $366.2 million in April.
- **Hongkong Electric Holdings Ltd.** said its first-half net earnings fell 14 percent to 1.72 billion Hong Kong dollars ($222.4 million).
- **China** said that foreign banks doing business in domestic currency will face higher taxes. *Bloomberg, Knight-Ridder, AFP*

One-Time Gain Helps Swire

Bloomberg Business News

HONG KONG — Swire Pacific Ltd. said Thursday that its first-half profit rose 6 percent as the sale of its stake in a Hong Kong airline offset a slump in earnings at its property division.

The company, whose businesses include aviation, bottling and real estate, said profit after taxes and payments to minority interests rose to 3.06 billion Hong Kong dollars ($395.6 million) from 2.89 billion dollars a year earlier. Sales fell to 23.48 billion dollars from 27.14 billion.

Profit was lifted by a one-time gain of 468 million dollars from the sale of shares in Hong Kong Dragon Airlines Ltd.

Swire Pacific, controlled by the Swire family from London, sold part of its stake in Dragonair to an arm of China's airline regulator this year. It also relinquished control over Hong Kong's only long-haul carrier, Cathay Pacific Ltd. In doing so, Swire forged ties with Chinese companies that may come to dominate Hong Kong after the territory returns to mainland rule next year. That may help ensure that the company prospers after 1997, analysts said. Stock in the company fell 25 cents, to 67.00 dollars.

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The Associated Press.

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(Continued)

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Herald Tribune
SPORTS

WORLD ROUNDUP

Heat Fear Penalties

BASKETBALL The Miami Heat are considering abandoning a legal fight to keep Juwan Howard because the team risks severe penalties if it loses an arbitration hearing over the validity of its contract with the forward, sources said Wednesday.

An arbitrator's finding against the Heat could pave the way for the league to fine the team $5 million and suspend Coach Pat Riley for a year under the new collective bargaining agreement between the NBA and its players' union. Previously, the maximum fine for tampering or circumventing of salary cap rules was $1 million.

Mickey Arison, the Heat's managing general partner, was fined $1 million last season for tampering in his successful effort to lure Riley as the team's president and coach while Riley was still coach of the New York Knicks. *(WP)*

Irvin Goes to Camp

FOOTBALL Michael Irvin finally reported to the Dallas Cowboys' camp Wednesday and suited up with the team for the first time since being sentenced to probation for cocaine possession three weeks ago.

Irvin was suspended by the National Football League for the first five games of the season. He is allowed to practice and can play in exhibition games. But once the season starts on Aug. 26, he is not allowed to be in contact with the club until the suspension ends. Barry Switzer, the Cowboys' coach, said Irvin would not play in exhibition games. *(AP)*

John Bazemore/The Associated Press

Atlanta's pitching coach Leo Mazzone watching Jan Zelezny, the javelin gold medalist, throw.

Zelezny Tries Pitching

BASEBALL Jan Zelezny, the double Olympic javelin champion, gave a mighty heave and threw the baseball, the first he had ever gripped, over the backstop and into the tarpaulin rolled up beside the infield at Fulton County Stadium. Zelezny had stayed on in Atlanta for a pitching trial with the Braves.

"We were not disappointed at all in what we saw today," said Paul Snyder, the Braves' director of scouting and player development. Snyder said Zelezny would be invited to spring training. *(NYT)*

Moreno Makes His Mark

SOCCER Jaime Moreno, a Bolivian, scored four minutes into his first Major League Soccer game and Raul Diaz Arce had two goals Wednesday night, leading D.C. United to a 3-1 victory over the Tampa Bay Mutiny. The Mutiny, which took only three shots on goal, scored in the 90th minute on a penalty kick.

•In Denver, Marcelo Balboa scored the last of Colorado's three second-half goals as the Rapids beat the Kansas City Wiz, 4-2. *(AP)*

Watson Takes Aim At the Elusive Prize

By Larry Dorman
New York Times Service

LOUISVILLE, Kentucky — There is a look on Tom Watson's face these days, a sort of serene smile, a confident expression that says more about his state of mind coming into this week's PGA Championship than words ever could.

It is the look of a winner. Again. The haunted pensiveness is gone, blown away with the watersbed victory at the Memorial Tournament in June, his first triumph in nine years. The scare that made him withdraw from the British Open three weeks ago — a dull pain in his right shoulder — was just that. A scare. There are no tears in the rotator cuff, and a cortisone injection and exercises have him right back where he was.

And that could lead him to where he wants to be. Watson has won eight major championships, but one of the big four has eluded him. He has not won the PGA Championship.

Five British Opens, two Masters, a U.S. Open, but no PGA. If he is to join the storied group that has won the career Grand Slam — Jack Nicklaus, Ben Hogan, Gene Sarazen and Gary Player — it will have to be soon, perhaps here at the Valhalla Golf Club course that Nicklaus designed.

He will be 47 next month. Just three players have won majors at an age that advanced: Julius Boros was 48 when he won the 1968 PGA. Nicklaus was 46 when he won the 1986 Masters and Old Tom Morris was 46 when he won the 1867 British Open.

Old Tom Morris? How about Old Tom Watson?

"I would think that if Tom is going to do it," Nicklaus said, "this would be a good golf course for him to do it on. He's playing well. He's driving it magnificently.

"He feels scores are going to be low and he feels like he can shoot the golf course. If a fella has confidence and believes that and says that, then he's somebody to look out for, I believe."

That glow on Watson's face is not just from the heat and humidity that have wrapped around Louisville like a barber's hot towel. It is there because he is recharged, vitalized. He is starting over, beginning, as he put it, "the second part of my career," and to join Nicklaus, Hogan, Sarazen and Player would be the capstone.

"To me, it would be a great honor to be included in the fivesome there," Watson said. "I've had a couple of good opportunities to win the PGA and, just like anything, the timing wasn't right. I still feel I'm capable of winning. The victory at Memorial confirmed that to me, and I think it's going to be a little bit easier to win again for the second part of my career."

To win here, Watson will have to hit his irons well. This is a second-shot golf course, one where most of the trouble will come from missing greens. Watson is ranked sixth on the PGA Tour in greens hit in regulation. He also will have to putt well, and that is more problematic.

The greens will be fast, running between 11 and 12 on the Stimpmeter, a device used to measure the speed on the greens. Speed like that can kill bad putters, and Watson acknowledges that "putting is still a problem for me."

But there are elements that are not so easily quantified. There is the resolve that Watson displayed so memorably at Memorial, grinding out the victory despite missing a short putt on Sunday's first hole — staying relaxed, enjoying it all.

He carries that look here with him, and even the younger players sense that Watson's quest is not over.

"I think most of the players out here are capable of winning one major," said Tom Lehman, who got his first at the British Open at Royal Lytham & St. Annes. "What separates the good players from the great players is winning two, three, four. Watson, you think about the possibility of him winning the career Grand Slam, and I think it's phenomenal."

When he was struggling with his game, battling his putter, wrestling with the demons in his psyche, Watson never believed it was over. There were times when he lost interest — "It's hard to keep up your interest when you're out there and you know you can't win" — and there were times when he was enraged by it, but not times when he wanted to quit.

"There's too much love in there," he said, tapping his chest. "You can still love it and not like it."

He likes it again. And it likes him. Tom Watson is back in the game, searching for a way to complete a career that has already been remarkable. There is just one hole left to fill. A relaxed, confident man looks very much ready to give it a try.

Susan Walsh/The Associated Press

Curtis Strange putting Thursday in the PGA Championship's first round.

Elkington Takes Early Lead in PGA

Reuters

LOUISVILLE, Kentucky — Steve Elkington, the defending champion, shot a 5-under-par 67 Thursday to hold a one-stroke lead in the first round of the PGA Championship when the threat of thunderstorms and lightning forced suspension of play in the early afternoon.

Elkington birdied the final hole to take the lead from Mark Brooks, who made six consecutive birdies in the middle of his round of 68.

Nick Faldo, who made eight birdies and five bogeys, was at 69 with David Edwards and John Cook.

Elkington played a steady round, making six birdies and only one bogey on a hot, humid day with the threat of thunderstorms hanging over the 7,144-yard, par-72 Valhalla course.

Faldo birdied four of the last five holes to charge into contention in one of the two major championships he has not won.

Valhalla features Kentucky's famed bluegrass, which many players said is the thickest, strongest grass they have encountered.

Brooks struggled early on before reeling off six birdies from the eighth hole to go from 2-over-par to 4-under.

There were two aces in the early going, both on the 199-yard third hole. Steve Lowery scored the first with a five iron, followed by George Bowman, who plays on the Nike minitour.

There was also a brief protest from two caddies — Scott Jones, who caddies for his brother, Steve Jones, and Andy Martinez, who caddies for Tom Lehman — who were wearing shorts. Jones, the U.S. Open champion, and Lehman, the British Open champion, were playing in a threesome with Faldo, the Masters champion, whose caddie is a woman, Fanny Sunesson.

At the second tee the two caddies were ordered to change by an official. Both men, obviously anticipating such a situation, had long pants with them and changed in front of about 50 spectators.

Tournament rules require male caddies, as well as players, to wear long pants on the course, while women caddies are permitted to wear shorts or skirts.

Zeile Sets Error Record Helping Smoltz Win 18th

The Associated Press

Todd Zeile became the first National League first baseman to commit four errors in a game as the Philadelphia Phillies were routed by the Atlanta Braves, 14-1. Philadelphia committed six errors Wednesday to help John Smoltz become the majors' first 18-game winner. Smoltz wore a small black brace to protect his left wrist, which was chipped when he was hit by a line drive in his last start Friday.

The game was delayed one hour and 15 minutes by rain and called after eight innings when umpires deemed the field unfit.

Mets 11, Cubs 7 In Chicago, Rey Ordonez cleared the bases with a triple as New York scored five runs in the ninth inning. It was the Mets' second rally of the game. They had come from five runs down to tie it 6-6 in the sixth.

Rockies 12, Marlins 5 In Denver, Andres Galarraga and Quinton McCracken each drove in three runs to help Kevin Ritz (13-7) become the first Colorado pitcher to win 13 games in a season.

Giants 9, Reds 2 Barry Bonds hit a grand slam and Mark Gardner pitched San Francisco's first complete game in more than two months. Bonds' 32d homer helped the visiting Giants end a seven-game losing skid.

Pirates 12, Dodgers 2 In Pittsburgh, Mark Johnson homered one pitch after Los Angeles' starter, Ramon Martinez, was struck in the face in the first inning by Jeff King's line drive. Martinez fell to the ground and remained motionless for several minutes. Chan Ho Park began warming up in the bullpen, but Martinez slowly got up and stayed in the game.

Cardinals 1, Padres 0 Gary Gaetti homered with one out in the ninth inning to score the only run of the game for St. Louis' home victory.

Expos 13, Astros 5 In Houston, Darrin Fletcher hit a pair of two-run homers and Mark Leiter snapped a personal five-game losing streak.

In the American League:

Royals 7, Athletics 0 In Kansas City, Kevin Appier shut out Oakland, which is on course to break the 1961 New York Yankees' single-season record of 240 home runs. Appier (10-7) extended his scoreless streak to 24 innings.

Red Sox 8, Blue Jays 0 Boston's Tom Gordon pitched his first shutout in almost six years in only two hours. He struck out eight at Fenway Park and didn't walk a batter for the first time in his career.

Twins 4, Angels 0 Minnesota's Rich Robertson (5-10) also pitched a shutout. He blanked slumping California in Anaheim. In his third shutout of the season, he struck out seven and walked four against a team that has scored only one run in its last 26 innings.

Chuck Knoblauch brought in two runs with a pair of singles and stole home on the back end of a double steal against Chuck Finley.

BASEBALL ROUNDUP

Brian Bahr/Agence France-Presse

Mets' base runner Brent Mayne colliding with the Cubs' catcher Scott Servais.

Indians 5, Mariners 4 In Seattle's fourth error of the night at the Kingdome, Joey Cora's errant throw with two outs in the ninth inning, allowed Jose Vizcaino to score the winning run.

White Sox 8, Yankees 4 Harold Baines's one-out RBI single in the top of the 10th inning at Yankee Stadium ignited a five-run rally.

Tigers 4, Rangers 2 Travis Fryman and Bobby Higginson hit first-inning home runs at Tiger Stadium, and Detroit handed All-Star Roger Pavlik his fourth straight defeat.

Orioles 12, Brewers 2 Jeffrey Hammonds and Roberto Alomar hit consecutive homers in a six-run second inning off Scott Karl in Milwaukee.

Baseball Owners Pressure Union

By Murray Chass
New York Times Service

Baseball's owners authorized their chief negotiator, Randy Levine, to make a "last and final" offer to the players' union and proceed to court at his discretion.

Barring an agreement, which the two sides haven't been able to negotiate in 26 months, the owners' lawyers are expected to go to U.S. district court in New York City within two weeks to ask Judge Sonia Sotomayor to lift the injunction she issued in March 1995. It forced the owners to restore work rules from the expired collective bargaining agreement and induced the players to end their 234-day strike.

Management officials have said they don't plan to impose new work rules immediately if the judge lifts the injunction, but they believe they can make a case that the talks are at a legal impasse. Union officials believe the owners would implement a new system by the end of the World Series.

Levine is not expected to make the "last and final" offer at his next bargaining session Friday with Donald Fehr, the players' labor leader.

Asked for his reaction to the development, Fehr said a "last and final" offer suggests that negotiations are ended. Gene Orza, the union's second in command, agreed.

The reaction of the union officials was a preview of the inflammatory verbal war that court action is certain to trigger.

SCOREBOARD

BASEBALL

MAJOR LEAGUE STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION	W	L	Pct.	GB
New York	67	45	.598	—
Baltimore	58	54	.518	9
Boston	53	60	.469	14½
Toronto	52	62	.456	16
Detroit	39	74	.345	28½
CENTRAL DIVISION				
Cleveland	69	45	.605	—
Chicago	63	51	.553	6
Milwaukee	55	59	.482	14
Minnesota	54	59	.478	14½
Kansas City	53	62	.461	16½
WEST DIVISION				
Texas	63	51	.553	—
Seattle	60	52	.536	2
Oakland	56	59	.487	7½
California	52	61	.460	10½

NATIONAL LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION	W	L	Pct.	GB
Atlanta	70	42	.625	—
Montreal	63	49	.563	7
New York	54	61	.470	17½
Florida	52	62	.456	19
Philadelphia	47	67	.412	24
CENTRAL DIVISION				
St. Louis	61	53	.535	—
Houston	60	54	.526	1
Cincinnati	55	55	.500	4
Chicago	55	59	.487	5½
Pittsburgh	51	63	.447	10
WEST DIVISION				
San Diego	61	55	.526	—
Colorado	59	55	.518	1
Los Angeles	59	55	.518	1
San Francisco	47	65	.420	12

WEDNESDAY'S LINE SCORES

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Toronto	000	000	000	0	2	0
Boston	100	200	12x	4	9	1

Hentgen and O'Brien; Gordon and Stanley. W—Gordon, 9-5. L—Hentgen, 13-7. HRs—Boston, M. Vaughn (34), Greenwell (3), Rodriguez (1).

Texas	000	020	000	2	5	0
Detroit	310	000	00x	4	9	1

Pavlik, Cook (7), Russell (8), Stanton (8) and I. Rodriguez; Br.Williams, J. Cummings (5), Lima (7), Olson (9), M. Myers (9) and Aurelius. W—J. Cummings, 1-0. L—Pavlik, 12-6. Sv—M. Myers (4). HRs—Detroit, Fryman (16), Higginson (18).

Oakland	000	000	000	0	2	2
Kansas City	400	002	01x	7	8	0

Prieto and Williams, Steinbach (8); Appier and Macfarlane. W—Appier, 10-7. L—Prieto, 2-5. HR—Kan. City, Paquette (16).

Baltimore	061	106	400	12	14	0
Milwaukee	161	000	000	2	10	3

Erickson and Holles; Karl, Bones (7), Lloyd (7), Florie (9) and Levis. W—Erickson, 6-10. L—Karl, 10-6. HRs—Baltimore, R. Alomar (16), R. Palmeiro (28), Hammonds (9).

Chicago	120	000	000	5	9	2
New York	010	001	100	1	7	2

(10 innings)

A.Fernandez, R. Hernandez (9) and Karkovice; Gooden, M. Rivera (8), Wetteland (9), J. Nelson (10), Polley (10), Wickman (10) and Girardi. W—R. Hernandez, 3-1. L—J. Nelson, 4-3. HRs—Chicago, Karkovice (10). New York, B. Williams (21).

Minnesota	001	012	000	4	12	0
California	000	000	000	0	4	1

Robertson and Walbeck; Finley, Gohr (7), McElroy (9) and Greene. W—Robertson, 5-10. L—Finley, 11-10.

Cleveland	000	200	003	5	7	0
Seattle	011	000	110	4	10	4

Hershiser, Tavarez (6), Mesa (9) and Pena; S. Alomar (8); Moyer, M.Jackson (8), Charlton (8) and D. Wilson. W—Tavarez, 4-6. L—Charlton, 2-6. Sv—Mesa (27). HRs—Cleveland, Vizquel (8). Seattle, A.Rodriguez (25), D. Wilson (15).

NATIONAL LEAGUE

New York	100	005	005	11	17	0
Chicago	200	400	010	7	10	2

B.Jones, Byrd (5), D. Henry (6), DiPoto (8), Franco (9) and Mayne, Hundley (8); Telemaco, Wendell (6), Casian (6), Bottenfield (6), T. Adams (8), B. Patterson (9) and Servais, Hubbard (6). W—DiPoto, 6-1. L—T. Adams (2-4). HRs—New York, L. Johnson 2 (7). Chicago, Sosa (39), Gonzalez (8), Hubbard (1), L. Gomez (17).

Cincinnati	002	000	000	2	7	0
San Francisco	103	014	00x	9	10	0

Jarvis, Service (6), Le.Smith (7), J. Ruffin (8) and Taubensee; Gardner and Lampkin. W—Gardner, 10-4. L—Jarvis, 4-3. HR—San Francisco, Bonds (32).

Florida	300	100	010	5	10	0
Colorado	000	140	42x	12	16	1

A.Leiter, Te.Mathews (7), Valdes (7), Nen (8) and Siddall; Ritz, S.Reed (7), Leskanic (8), B. Ruffin (9) and Owens. W—Ritz, 13-7. L—A. Leiter, 11-10. HRs—Florida, Sheffield (22), Colorado, McCracken (2), Galarraga (21), Weiss (9).

Los Angeles	110	000	000	2	10	1
Pittsburgh	300	013	30x	12	15	0

R.Martinez, Park (6), Radinsky (6), Brocke (7), Dreifort (8) and Piazza, Prince (9); Lieber, M. Williams (7) and Kendall. W—Lieber, 5-4. L—R. Martinez, 8-6. Sv—M. Wilkins (1). HRs—Los Angeles, Bosch (3). Pittsburgh, M. Johnson (12), D. Clark (5).

San Diego	000	000	000	0	4	0
St. Louis	000	000	001	1	5	0

Hamilton, Bochtler (9) and Flaherty; Stottlemyre, Petkovsek (9) and Pagnozzi. W—Petkovsek, 8-2. L—Bochtler, 0-4. HR—St. Louis, Gaetti (16).

Montreal	010	107	400	12	16	1
Houston	100	002	002	5	13	2

M.Leiter, Leiper (7), Juden (9) and D. Fletcher; Spehr (8); Wall, T.Clark (6), Smoltz (7), X. Hernandez (9) and Manwaring, Eusebio (7). W—M. Leiter, 5-10. L—Wall, 6-4. HRs—Montreal, D. Fletcher 2 (11). Houston, Bagwell (34), D. Bell (14).

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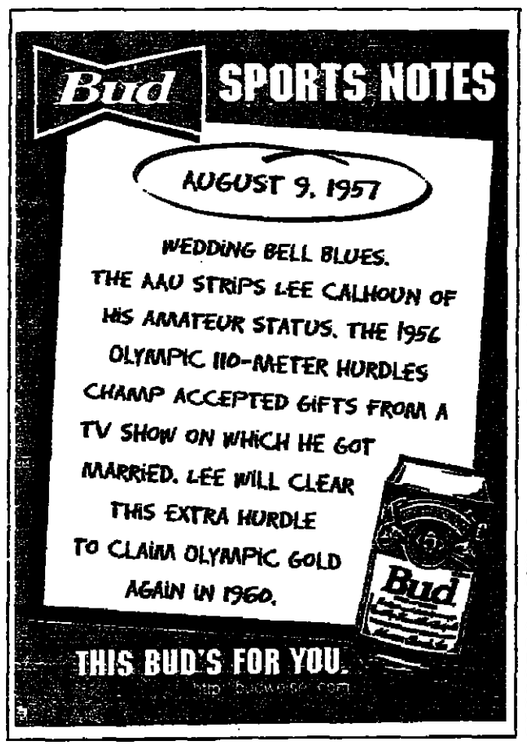


JAPANESE LEAGUES

CENTRAL LEAGUE

	W	L	T	Pct	GB
Hiroshima	52	37	0	.584	—
Chunichi	49	40	0	.551	3
Yomiuri	49	43	0	.538	4
Yakult	46	44	0	.511	6½
Yokohama	39	52	0	.429	14
Hanshin	36	56	0	.391	17½

THURSDAY'S EXPECTED
Chunichi 6, Hiroshima 2
Yakult 12, Yokohama 3
Yomiuri 6, Hanshin 1

PACIFIC LEAGUE

	W	L	T	Pct	GB
Nippon Ham	55	39	2	.585	—
Orix	47	40	4	.540	4½
Lotte	43	45	2	.489	9
Kintetsu	41	46	1	.471	10½
Seibu	40	47	4	.460	11½
Daiei	41	50	1	.451	12½

THURSDAY'S RESULTS
Lotte 2, Nippon Ham 1
Kintetsu 9, Daiei 7 (10 innings)
Orix 5, Seibu 5 (12 innings)

SOCCER

EUROPEAN CUP
QUALIFYING ROUND
Club Brugge (Bel) 2, Steaua Bucharest 2
Glasgow Rangers 0, AL Vladikavkaz (Rus) 1
IFK Goteborg (Swe) 3, Ferencvaros (Hun) 0
Grasshoppers Zurich 5, Slavia Prague 0
Maccabi Tel Aviv 0, Fenerbahce (Tur) 1
Panathinaikos (Gre) 1, Rosenborg (Nor) 0
Rapid Vienna 2, Dynamo Kiev (Ukr) 0
Widzew Lodz (Pol) 2, Brondby (Den) 1

Philadelphia	000	100	00—1	6	6
Atlanta	006	220	10—14	18	1

(5 innings)

B.Munoz, Blazier (3), Hollins (4), Borland (6), Ballistico (8) and Santiago, Lieberthal (4); Smoltz, Hartsfield (6), Borowski (8) and J.Lopez, Ed.Perez (4). W—Smoltz, 18-6. L—B. Munoz, 0-3. HRs—Atlanta, McGriff (22), J. Lopez (18).

EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS CUP
QUALIFYING ROUND
Dinamo Batumi (Geo) 6, H.Beitteleg (Far) 0
Kotaik Abovian (Arm) 1, Lamaca (Cyp) 0
MyPa (Fin) 1, Karabakh Agdam (Aze) 0
Chern. Hornemme (Slo) 1, Flam. Vlore (Alb) 0
FC Universitate (Lux) 1, Vaduz (Liech) 1 FC
Varteks (Cro) 2, U.S. Luxembourg (Lux) 1
MPCC Mozyr (Bel) 2, FC Reykjavik (Ice) 2
Red Star (Yug) 6, Hearts (Sco) 0
Kispest Honved (Hun) 1, Sloga Jug. (Mac) 0
FC Constructorul (Mol) 1, H.L. Rishon (Isr) 0
Tallinna Sadam (Est) 2, N. Vinnitsa (Ukr) 1

MAJOR LEAGUE SOCCER
D.C. 3, Tampa Bay 1
Colorado 4, Kansas City 2
STANDINGS: Eastern Conference—Tampa Bay 39 points; D.C. 28; NY-NJ 24; New England 21; Columbus 15. Western Conference—Los Angeles 36; Kansas City 35; Dallas 34; San Jose 28; Colorado 28.

FOOTBALL

CFL STANDINGS

EASTERN DIVISION

	W	L	T	PF	PA	Pts.
Toronto	5	1	0	212	127	10
Hamilton	4	3	0	197	206	8
Montreal	3	4	0	199	201	6
Ottawa	1	5	0	93	193	2

WESTERN DIVISION

	W	L	T	PF	PA	Pts.
Calgary	5	1	0	248	118	10
Edmonton	4	2	0	148	107	8
Winnipeg	3	3	0	126	184	6
Saskatchewan	2	4	0	120	176	4
British Columbia	1	5	0	145	182	2

WEDNESDAY'S RESULT
Montreal 29, Hamilton 22

CRICKET

SECOND TEST
ENGLAND VS PAKISTAN, 1ST DAY
THURSDAY, AT HEADINGLEY, LEEDS
Pakistan 1st Innings: 281-6 (Rizz Ahmed 141)

TRANSITIONS

BASEBALL
AMERICAN LEAGUE
BALTIMORE—Promoted RHP Todd Reveniq from Bowie, EL, to Rochester, IL.
CHICAGO—Recalled LHP Mike Bertotti from Nashville, AA. Optioned OF Mike Cameron to Nashville.
DETROIT—Signed LHP Matt Miller.
MINNESOTA—Signed CF Jacque Jones and assigned him to Fort Myers, FSL.
NATIONAL LEAGUE
ATLANTA—Recalled LHP Dean Hartgraves from Richmond, IL. Optioned INF Pablo Martinez to Richmond.
COLORADO—Assigned OF Larry Walker to Solgas, CL on injury rehabilitation stint.
PHILADELPHIA—Signed RHP Jeff Parrett.

FOOTBALL
NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE
ARIZONA—Signed RB Leeland McElroy to 3-year contract. Signed TE Duane Young.
ATLANTA—Agreed to terms with CB Jeff George on 1-year contract.
GREEN BAY—Acquired CB Carlos Yancy from New England Patriots for past considerations.
JACKSONVILLE—Signed LB-C Ed Brady. Waived PK Craig Foyth.
MIAMI—Released LB Jack Del Rio.
NEW ENGLAND—Waived K Blair Cully and G Ryan Oman.
NEW ORLEANS—Waived WR Steve Rhem.
NEW YORK JETS—Waived DT Everett McIver.
PITTSBURGH—Signed WR Joy Kenny.

BASKETBALL
NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION
BOSTON—Re-signed C Alton Lister.
CHICAGO—Signed F Dennis Rodman to 1-year contract.
DETROIT—Signed F Rick Mahorn to 1-year contract. Agreed to terms with F Otis Thorpe on 3-year contract.
NEW JERSEY—Signed F David Benoit to 1-year contract.
UTAH—Re-signed C Greg Foster to 3-year contract.

هكذا من الأصل

SPORTS

Paul Barker/The Associated Press

Ijaz Ahmed pulling a ball for four.

Ijaz Hits 141 As Pakistan Grabs Initiative

Reuters

LEEDS, England — Ijaz Ahmed scored 141 Thursday, his third test century in 10 months, as Pakistan reached 281-6 on the opening day of the second test against England at Headingley.

Michael Atherton, England's captain, won the toss and put Pakistan in to bat. His decision looked good when Alan Mullally dismissed opener Saeed Anwar for one in the fourth over. But, on a day when momentum shifted back and forth, Pakistan then grabbed the initiative

Ijaz and Shadab Kabir (35) went on the attack and put on 97 for the second wicket. After Kabir fell to Andy Caddick, Inzamam-ul-Haq was caught by Atherton off the bowling of Mullally for just two, but Pakistan's batsmen took control again as Salim Malik joined Ijaz in a stand of 130. Salim made 55, but after he was bowled by Dominic Cork, with Pakistan on 233, two more wickets fell before the close.

Kabir's wicket was Caddick's first in test matches in more than two years. His last test wicket before that was in Antigua when he ended Brian Lara's record-breaking innings of 375.

After tea, Caddick returned with the new ball to have Wasim Akram caught behind for seven.

Cork ended Ijaz's innings but for most of the day England's all-pace attack struggled to assert itself.

Atherton won the toss for the first time this summer and badly needed early results on an overcast Yorkshire day.

But the attack consistently bowled too short and too wide and gave Ijaz plenty of scoring opportunities as he scored his third hundred in the last four tests.

Saeed Anwar, with five successive test half-centuries behind him, fell when he played an undisciplined shot at Mullally and Atherton claimed a waist-high catch close to the wicket.

Caddick dismissed the left-handed Shadab Kabir just before lunch, but suffered at the hands of Ijaz, who twice hit him for six. Ijaz also struck 21 fours in his innings.

Ijaz, the first Pakistan batsman to score a century at Headingley, had batted 278 minutes and faced 201 balls when he stretched and chased a wide ball from Cork and was caught behind the wicket by Jack Russell.

Salim's solid half-century took 183 minutes. It was his first of the tour and first in test cricket for 20 months.

Games' Loser Nations Search for Scapegoats

Olympic Spirit Quickly Smothered By Carping and Athlete-Bashing

By Molly Moore
Washington Post Service

MEXICO CITY — Olympic losers unite! Mexico and Colombia are demanding congressional investigations. The British have declared themselves a "mediocrity." The Japanese are examing the national psyche. The Egyptians are firing coaches and penalizing losing athletes.

For the nations that didn't bring home the gold from the Atlanta Olympics, pundits, politicians and the public are now earning gold medals in post-mortem flagellation and athlete-bashing.

In what has become a post-Olympic ritual around the world, nations are using their perceived failures on the athletic fields as a metaphor for perceived faults in their societies: corruption, economic upheaval, general slothfulness of the couch potato generation.

"What went wrong?" a Mexico City Times editorial asked after noting that its athletes brought home only a solitary bronze medal ("for walking," the newspaper added).

The Times of India columnist Narendar Pani blamed his country's single bronze in men's tennis — India's worst showing in 16 years — on "a fear of competition not only in sports, but also in politics and business."

An Egyptian court will hear a claim that the country was 'defamed' and taxpayers' money 'squandered' at the Atlanta Olympics.

A front-page cartoon in the Times of India suggested, "The next Olympics should also have brass, tin, wood, plastic medals, to give our players a chance to bring glory to the nation!"

So much for the Olympic spirit.

Of the countries that won medals, Mexico, India, Israel, Lithuania, Mongolia, Mozambique, Puerto Rico, Tunisia and Uganda tied for the lowest showing — one bronze each.

The British were miffed at having won a mere 15 medals. They found it galling to rank behind Ukraine, Poland, Hungary and Romania when they wanted to be in the same league with Germany (65 medals) and Russia (63), the second and third biggest medal winners.

"We are a mediocrity," Kevin Hickey, technical director of the British Olympic Association, complained in the Daily Telegraph, which came to refer to the British performance as taking place under "the Atlanta Curse." The British complained that they cannot even win at their "own" sports anymore, such as equestrianism.

Japan, which won 14 medals — only about half of what Japanese officials had predicted — lashed out at its athletes for committing the ultimate sin: They didn't try hard enough.

"There's no top athlete in the world who says, 'I just want to enjoy the race,' " railed Seijun Ninomiya in an angry column in the Weekly Gendai magazine, a reference to pre-Olympic comments by the Japanese swimmer Suzu Chiba, who failed to win either of her two races. The magazine columnist bemoaned that the new breed of young Japanese athletes just doesn't have the seriousness and determination needed to win.

But Japan, like most of the other countries which felt they had disappointing showings, also accused its sporting organizations of failing to support its athletes adequately. "It may be time to begin asking in a louder voice whether or not more money should be spent developing sports facilities and coaching personnel rather than simply pouring money into building highways and bullet trains," said the Asahi Evening News writer Roy K. Akagawa.

The criticism was even harsher in Mexico, where both government and business are now awash in scandals and corruption allegations. Why should its Olympics committee be immune? Politicians have called for a congressional investigation to ferret out corruption in the sporting world.

"Mexico's sport is manipulated by mafias — by small power groups that have hijacked and vilified Mexican sport," Alejandro Rojas Diaz Duran, a prominent member of the country's governing party, told reporters. "The organizers in charge of our Olympic effort are pathetic. Sport here is run . . . on favoritism, personal appointments and total lack of democracy."

While many Mexican officials blamed the poor showing of their athletes on the country's ongoing economic upheaval, the Mexico City Times noted in a front-page story that "in comparison to other developing and Third World nations, even Nigeria, known for corruption at all levels of national life, and Burundi, stricken by genocide and extreme poverty, fared better than Mexico."

IN MOST countries, the carping has been limited to words. Not so in Egypt, where a court on Aug. 25 will hear a claim that the government-run sports associations "defamed Egypt and squandered taxpayers' money" at the Atlanta Olympics by sending athletes who had no chance of winning medals.

The Egyptian minister of sports and youth fired seven coaches for failing to bring home a single medal and has threatened to bar all losing athletes from future international competitions. But the minister is also under fire from commentators calling for his resignation because of alleged corruption and exploitation of government-financed sports organizations in political campaigns.

Meanwhile, this Olympic spirit persisted at airports as athletes straggled back to their home countries.

"Stars and gripes in a tale of two airports," read a headline in the Guardian newspaper in Britain. In Dublin, Ireland's president, Mary Robinson, greeted her country's returning Olympic athletes — including the three-time gold-medal swimmer Michelle Smith — but in London, not a single British politician met the returning team. It seems nobody wanted to be associated with losers, even losers who win 15 medals.

Mark Almond/The Associated Press

Bosnians Mustafa Guhdija, center, and Almedin Osmanovic talking to Gerald Deason, left, who is preparing their artificial limbs for Atlanta's Paralympic Games, which began Thursday. Both athletes stepped on mines in Bosnia.

Rangers Recover Against Russians

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

Ally McCoist's first goal in European competition for almost four years helped Glasgow Rangers to a 3-1 victory over Alania Vladikavkaz of Russia on Wednesday in the first leg of the European Cup qualifying round.

Rangers came from behind with goals from substitute Derek McInnes, McCoist and Gordan Petric.

Igor Yanovski had given the Russian champion and league leader a first-half lead. Yanovski scored in the 29th minute with a low left-foot shot from the angle of the penalty box.

In the 50th minute, McInnes evened the score for the Rangers. At 60 minutes, McCoist atoned for earlier misses, sweeping the ball home from Gordon Durie's cross.

Rangers made it 3-1 with 11 minutes remaining as defender Gordan Petric scored with a powerful header. Thirty seconds later the Russians got a penalty when Andy Goram, the Rangers' goalkeeper, brought down Oleg Sergeev. But Yanovsky was wildly off-target with the penalty kick.

Grasshoppers of Zurich scored the most goals in the night's competition, thrashing the Czech team Slavia Prague, semifinalists in the UEFA Cup last season, 5-0. Radek Bejbl, Karel Poborsky, Vladimir Smicer and Jan Suchoparek attracted the attention of Western clubs as the Czech national team reached the final of the European Championship in June and all have since left Slavia.

In other games, Maccabi Tel-Aviv lost, 1-0, to Fenerbahce of Turkey in Israel; Brugge tied 2-2 at home in Belgium with Steaua Bucharest, and Widzew Lodz of Poland beat their Danish visitors, Brondby, 2-1. Panathinaikos, semifinalists last season, beat Rosenborg of Norway, 1-0 in Greece, and Rapid Vienna welcomed Dynamo Kiev back from a 12-month ban with a 2-0 victory in Vienna. *(AFP, Reuters)*

■ **Italian Deadlock Saves Sacchi**

Arrigo Sacchi, Italy's national coach, who has been under pressure since his team's failure in the European Championship, is likely to keep his job because of the deadlock in the Italian soccer federation's presidential elections.

The Italian Olympic Committee may appoint an interim president next week. Italy's first qualifying game for the 1998 World Cup is on Oct. 5 against Moldova.

A spokesman for the federation said Thursday: "It would be impossible to replace the national team coach shortly before the start of the 1998 World Cup qualifying matches."

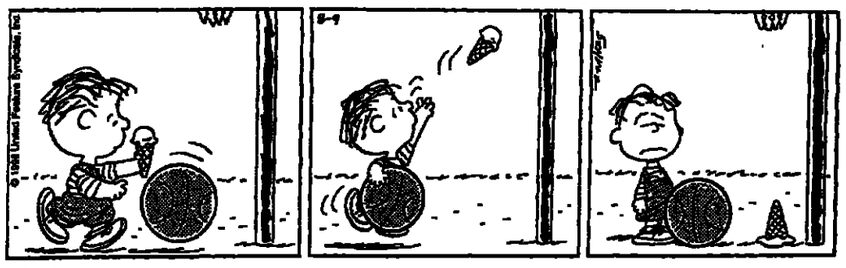
Luciano Nizzola and Giancarlo Abete, the rival candidates for the presidency, used the national team's failure and Sacchi's unpopularity to remove Antonio Matarrese, a supporter of Sacchi, from the presidency.

Peter Kemp/The Associated Press

Dimari Teradze, foreground, battling Rangers' Gordon Durie for the ball.

DENNIS THE MENACE

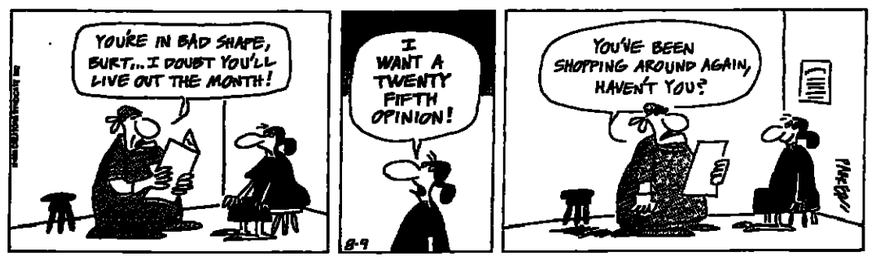
PEANUTS



GARFIELD

CALVIN AND HOBBES

WIZARD of ID



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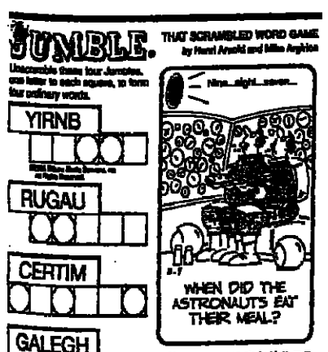

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OBSERVER

Just Common Sense

By Russell Baker

NEW YORK — It takes great self-confidence to write a newspaper column. Some might say it takes arrogance. Be that as it may, my willingness to pronounce on a great many matters of which I have little or no knowledge is one of my prime qualifications for this trade.

When it comes, however, to matters economical, or to put it indelicately, money, I invariably lose courage, hesitate to speak at all, and, when I dare, do so only after groveling in apology for my unfitness.

As I now want to talk about economics questions that leave me baffled, let me, therefore, apologize for not knowing the answers to these questions, which would be obvious to anyone who had studied his Samuelson, Friedman and Galbraith. With great humility, then, and greater trepidation, I put my questions.

The first concerns the bipartisan welfare bill, which proposes to punish the children of welfare parents who do not, after time, take jobs. My first question is: What jobs?

□

It is my impression that unemployment now stands at 5 percent. Doesn't this mean that 5 percent of people who want jobs cannot find them? If there are no jobs for people who want them, why do the president and the Congress assume that there will be jobs for these additional people being sent into the job market under work-or-else orders?

This, however, is only part of my question. It is my impression that the present 5 percent unemployment rate is regarded happily by our wisest money people as "full employment." What's more, as we have seen repeatedly, Wall Street has conniption fits whenever there are signs that unemployment might drop below 5 percent.

I mean, when statistics show more people going to work, the stock market always goes down. Wall Street obviously hates having too many people working. Not long ago a man obviously learned in matters financial explained this in The Wall Street Journal. The details were beyond my grasp, but he seemed to be saying that too much employment drives up the price of labor, which causes inflation, which causes disaster in financial markets.

□

It seems to me that common sense would force us to stop people who are already unemployed from taking jobs since their doing so will cause inflation, create havoc in financial markets and destroy the stability for which we can thank our 5 percent unemployment rate.

If this is so, shouldn't we be encouraging welfare people to stay unemployed? Where is the sense in threatening to put welfare children out in the cold unless their parents take these jobs that threaten to devastate our economic stability?

Are they not performing a valuable service to the country? By staying unemployed they seem to me to be contributing to the economic stability that brings such pleasant prosperity to the rest of us.

Wouldn't it be logical for a grateful nation to recognize the value of their services by opening its purse to them, instead of churlishly kicking them until they take jobs that the masters of money don't want them to take?

I'm just asking, that's all.

New York Times Service

Tips on Speaking From a Good Humor Man

By Don Oldenburg
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — Forgotten somewhere in the archives of prime-time television's most bizarre programming is a 23-year-old Malcolm Kushner abusing a fern on "The Gong Show."

That was in the fall of 1976; the show that raised amateur stage acts to new heights of absurdity, such as the girl who whistled through her nose and the comedian who wore a bag over his head, was in its third week on-air. Kushner's was the world's first plant act.

"As in 'animal act,' except it was a plant," he recalls, chortling at the thought of himself on network television telling an audience he had trained a fern to jump through a hoop. He recalls the chorus of guffaws growing louder as he threw the fern through a hoop. Then he sawed the fern in half, and shot it from a cannon.

"I came in second," he says proudly. "I didn't get gonged."

Now, 20 years later, instead of ferns, Kushner trains people to jump through hoops. Except these hoops are insider tricks of the communications trade.

Instead of putting on public spectacles, he makes public presentations: Addressing for Success, you could call it. Funny thing is, in his lecturing others on how to give effective speeches, he still demonstrates that peculiar sense of humor that can turn a potted plant into a parody.

"You don't have to be funny, just have a sense of humor," says Kushner, 43, who bills himself as a humor consultant. He prefers billing the Fortune 500 corporations that hire him to impart witticism and wisdom on the rubber-chicken circuit, where he works his coat-and-tie audiences the way stand-up comedians work cheesy comedy clubs.

But, seriously folks, punch lines have a bottom line, according to Kushner: Whether you are standing before an audience of thousands, sitting next to the person one work station over or talking to your spouse, there is no better way of "creating instant rapport and relating to people," he insists, than by interjecting a little humor.

"Do you know or do you work with people whom you perceive as having no sense of humor? How do you feel about them? I rest my case," says Kushner, author of the recently published book "Successful Presentations for Dummies" (IDG Books), in which several chapters are dedicated to helping people equip themselves with quips. "In today's ultracompetitive marketplace of goods, services and ideas, humor is a competitive advantage because it makes people want to deal with you."

If you have any doubts, consider this year's presidential campaign — an arena where good rapport and skillful communication can be the key to no less than the White House front door. Kushner acknowledges that his expertise mandates him to scrutinize and analyze even these earliest rounds of utterances by Bill Clinton and Bob Dole. "As a professional, I look for any good joke I can steal," Kushner quips. He laughs. Then he adds that he isn't really joking about that.

Beyond rustling new material from presidential candidates, he watches televised press conferences, anticipating from America's elected professional communicators crafted lines that go for the jocular — those jests and gibes whose value in swaying audiences exceeds even promises of across-the-board tax cuts. "Communication is my framework for looking at the universe," Kushner says. "What did they get asked? Are they using humor to dodge it? Did they use humor to set a tone? Are they using humor for what they're trying to achieve?"

Well, are they?

"Clinton comes up pretty well because he has professional comedians writing for him," says Kushner.

Al Gore "has gone on Letterman with a Top 10 list of why he's stiffer than a tree. He has made his stiff image a plus by poking fun of himself. That's what Kennedy did with his wealth."

And Bob Dole? A funny guy?

"I think Dole has tried to do it with the age thing but he hasn't hit it right yet," says Kushner. The prime rule for Dole or anyone, he adds, "isn't to be hilariously funny — the goal is to communicate that you have a sense of humor. So Dole needs to smile and laugh a little more."

Audrey Shelyn/The Washington Post

Malcolm Kushner: "I look for any good joke I can steal."

Other rules of using humor to win friends and influence voters, er, people, apply to anyone, whether you're running for the presidency or running from the police, or both, according to Kushner. He spells out many of them in his new book. A few pointers:

- Use self-effacing humor to lower barriers.
- It's not the delivery, it's the relevance: "Take half the energy you are putting into worrying about delivery and stage fright and spend it looking into your audience and what it wants to know," says Kushner. "If you're telling a joke, make it relevant to your topic or audience."
- Avoid humor that hurts: "A lot of it is unintentional. It's the collision of male and female humor in the workplace," says Kushner, a lawyer who doesn't practice law but teaches those who do about humor bias. "It's just common courtesy not to insult."

Kushner's simple test to determine whether to use risqué humor: Imagine the front-page headline of your hometown newspaper reporting on you using the joke in a speech. Embarrassed? If so, don't use it.

Kushner regularly surfs the World Wide Web in search of resources that make life easier for public speakers, humorists and writers.

"I guess I must have too much time on my hands," he deadpans, describing the databases and reference sites he finds orbiting in cyberspace. He links to the best of them from his own Web site (http://www.kushnergroup.com) as a free service.

"Click on the menu on the main page and go past all the propaganda there, and you'll find some really cool tools for speakers and writers," he says. Among the coolest are the automatic haiku generator, the rhyming dictionary, the political babble generator, the automatic complaint generator, the interactive humor database (insert a word and it provides related jokes) and the surrealist compliment generator.

"There's a tag line search that finds one-liners from over 700 light bulb jokes," he says. "You can search for funny quotations from Jack Handey to Dave Barry from multiple databases. And I'm now adding a 'material page' where you can search for types of jokes. The computer actually adds a lot to your writing and speaking."

The big value of humor is that using it well builds "a reserve of goodwill," says Kushner.

PEOPLE

Toby Talbot/The Associated Press

MUSEUM PIECE — Laureen Gauthier at work on a chocolate Smithsonian Institution castle, made to mark the museum's 150th birthday on Saturday.

THE rock that fell to earth turned out to be a bit of a windfall for the Man Who Fell to Earth. **David Bowie** raked in royalties as London's three top pop radio stations played — and replayed — his 1973 hit "Life on Mars" to celebrate the possible discovery of, well, life on Mars. BBC Radio One, which broadcasts across Britain, would have had to pay about £25, or $39, for each playing. During Bowie's "space years" in the early 1970s, he recorded the albums "Space Oddity" and "Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars." He also starred in the 1976 film about an alienated alien, "The Man Who Fell to Earth."

□

Nude beachgoers in Truro, Massachussets, are finding **Al Gore** a bit of a wet blanket. The vice president and his family are vacationing at a summer home on Cape Cod that overlooks an unsanctioned nude beach, so the police have moved in and closed it off while the Gores are in town. That means goodbye to nude sunbathing and volleyball games that usually take place there. But the head of the local naturist society, **Lee Baxandall**, has some advice for the vice president: "We urge Al to go down to the dune, strip off and enjoy the experience that ought to be available to all bathers. Bet that would loosen him up!"

□

For **Tom Cruise** and his wife, **Nicole Kidman**, it was a case of being in the right place at the right time. A French family was forced to take to the lifeboats when their 63-foot yacht caught fire three miles north of Capri. The star couple, who were boating with friends when the family of three abandoned the "Sitaly IV," took the family aboard. The family, visiting from Switzerland, was taken to shore by a Coast Guard cutter.

□

Your father may be spending the week signing a few bills, meeting Olympians and campaigning in California. But for **Chelsea Clinton** and her mother family life goes on, and this week that means looking at colleges in New England. **Hillary Rodham Clinton** and 16-year-old Chelsea, who will be a junior in a private school this fall, have visited Amherst College and plan to look in on Wellesley, Harvard and Yale. "We treated them pretty low-key, at their request," said **Susan Peikor**, executive assistant to the president at Amherst. "They really wanted to be just a regular mom and her daughter." The Clintons will be visiting universities in other parts of the U.S. at later dates, but there has been no word on whether Chelsea has toured her father's alma mater, Georgetown. The Clintons begin a family vacation next week in Jackson Hole, Wyoming.

□

The drummer of the rock band Def Leppard, **Rick Allen**, has pleaded guilty to wife-beating charges in Los Angeles. The 32-year-old Allen, who lost an arm in a car accident in England, was ordered to spend a month cleaning up graffiti and a year in counseling for domestic violence. He must also attend 104 meetings of Alcoholics Anonymous and pay for producing a public service announcement on domestic violence for MTV. His wife, **Stacy**, suffered minor injuries in June 1995 when he choked her and bashed her head into a wall at the Los Angeles International Airport.

□

With his wedding day approaching, **John F. Kennedy** confessed to his bride-to-be about his womanizing, but **Jacqueline Bouvier** "handled it pretty well," according to a new book. "He confessed everything to Jackie," former Senator **George Smathers** tells the author **Edward Klein** in "All Too Human: The Love Story of Jack and Jackie Kennedy." Smathers added, "Women of that class and generation were raised to turn a blind eye to sexual peccadilloes." The book, excerpts of which appear in the September issue of Vanity Fair, also says Jackie broke off an engagement to a Wall Street stock and bond salesman, **John G. Husted Jr.**, to marry Kennedy.

□

The father of the slain Tejano singer, **Selena**, will be played by **Edward James Olmos** in a movie about her life to begin production next month. She was shot to death in March 1995. Olmos was nominated for best actor in 1987 for his title role in "Stand and Deliver."

□

O.J. Simpson says he's a "relatively moral guy." It's the rest of Hollywood that has lost control, he says. In the September issue of Esquire, Simpson attacks Hollywood and some of its women, whom he calls drug-abusing fame seekers. Simpson was acquitted in the slayings of his ex-wife, **Nicole Brown Simpson**, and her friend **Ronald Goldman**.

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Hong Kong	800-1111	Saipan▲	235-2872	Bulgaria■	00-800-0010	Iceland●	800 9811	Portugal▲	05017-1-288	Bahrain■	800-001	Brazil	000-8010	Venezuela●■	800-11-120
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Indonesia●	001-801-10	Sri Lanka	430-430	Czech Rep.▲	00-42-000-101	Italy●	172-1011	Russia●▲(Moscow)	755-5042	Egypt●(Cairo)†	510-0200	Chile	800-800-311	Gabon●	00●001
Japan●■	0039-111	Taiwan●	0080-10288-0	Denmark	8001-9010	Lithuania■	8●196	Slovak Rep.●▲	00-42-000-101	Israel	177-100-2727	Colombia	980-11-0010	Gambia●	00111
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Korea, Republic●	00-811	EUROPE		France	19-0011	Malta■	0800-890-110	Sweden	020-795-611	Saudi Arabia◇	1-800-10	Ecuador●▲	999-119	Kenya▲	0800-10
Malaysia○	800-0011	Armenia●▲	8●14111	Germany	0130-0010	Monaco●	800-90-288	Switzerland●	0-800-550011	Turkey●	00-800-12277	El Salvador○■	800-1785	Liberia	797-797
		Austria●○	022-903-011	Gibraltar■	8000	Netherlands●	06-022-9111	Ukraine▲	8●100-11	U. Arab Emirates●■	800-121	Mexico▽■	95-800-462-4240	South Africa	0-800-99-0123

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